

14. 'ROAD SAFETY AT THE SCHOOL GATE' TIM ASHTON'S REPORT



Officer responsible City Streets Manager	Author Lee Kelly Schools Advocate
Corporate Plan Output: Safety Improvements 9.5.65	

The purpose of this report is to update the Board on the progress to date of the Road Safety projects suggested in a report by Tim Ashton, titled 'Road Safety at the School Gate'. This report was produced initially for the Heathcote/Spreydon Community Board targeting road safety issues outside schools within that Board's area and a subsequent report was undertaken for the Shirley/Papanui Community Board for schools within that area.

BACKGROUND

Tim Ashton was employed as a Road Safety Education Officer in 1997 in a joint initiative between the Heathcote/Spreydon Community Board and the Parking Unit of the Christchurch City Council. Both the Board and the Parking Unit were concerned with the behaviour of motorists, mostly parents and caregivers, outside schools and believed that this behaviour was putting children at risk. Tim's role was an educative one in regard to traffic safety matters, but he was also warranted as an enforcement officer and he was tasked with issuing traffic offence notices as and when required.

Tim resigned from the Council in 1998 and the position of Road Safety Education Officer was not continued. The Council formally adopted the Road Safety for Schools Steering Group in 1997 and this group has absorbed the duties of the Road Safety Education Officer excluding the enforcement role which remains a Parking Unit function.

ROAD SAFETY AT THE SCHOOL GATE REPORT

The Shirley/Papanui report compiled by Tim Ashton covers the 24 primary, intermediate and secondary schools within the Board's area. Given the extensiveness of the report it was envisaged that the proposed improvements would be achieved over a period of time, as funds became available. The Road Safety for Schools Steering Group has prioritised the most pressing road safety concerns to be resolved at all schools within the City this financial year, 1999/2000. These projects include a pedestrian island on Belfast Road at Shannon Place for the Belfast School, a pedestrian island on Cranford Street at Fraser Street for the Papanui School, kerb extensions on Mahars Road for the Mairehau Primary School. Major realignment work on Prestons Road at the Marshland School has been recommended for the 2000/2001 financial year.

Other projects within the Board's area will be addressed when funding becomes available.

Recommendation: That this information be received.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: That the officer's recommendation be adopted.