

STAFF REPORT

TO: Chairman and Members, Engineering Services Committee

FROM: Gary Clark, Transportation Manager
(Prepared by Steve Elkington Transportation Project Engineer)

DATE: 03 February 2011

SUBJECT: **Minor Improvement Programme – 2010-2011– RESC-11-02-14-INF**
Report prepared for meeting of 3 February 2011

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide information to the Engineering Services Committee outlining Council's Minor Improvement Programme planned for 2010-2011.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Council annually receives funding through its Land Transport Programme for funding Minor Improvements to the roading network. The amount of funding received is calculated on 8% of the value of the annual subsidised roading programme for operations and maintenance work categories. The New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) subsidises this work at a Funding Assistance Rate (FAR) of 59%.

- 2.2 Examples of the type of work this funding covers are:

- small isolated geometric improvements;
- traffic calming;
- lighting improvements for safety;
- guard-railing;
- sight benching to improve sight lines;
- pedestrian facilities;
- stock underpasses;

- 2.3 Budget for the 2010-2011 programme is \$913,760, including professional fees.

2.4 Minor Improvements Matrix

A matrix has been developed for minor improvement projects on the back of a list of minor improvement projects that has been used over the years. The matrix was used to provide a priority ranking for the selection of projects. The factors taken into account are:

- number of crashes;
- traffic volume;

- presence of vulnerable road users;
- adjacent work;
- requested by; and
- level of deficiency in road geometry.

The reason for setting up the matrix approach to works is to ensure that a robust objective analysis can be carried out on all projects to provide the best outcome across the District. The Matrix merely provides a tool to rank one project against another based on needs rather than desires. Each year staff will bring a list to Council for discussion and to confirm the projects at the top of the list should proceed.

3 COMMENT

3.1 Currently there are committed projects carried forward from last financial year 2009/10 which are included in the programme as well as those to be completed for 2010/11. Consultation is also taking place on a number of pedestrian improvement projects around Richmond. Upon approval of the matrix list the projects tender documents will be prepared.

Proposed year	Activity Description/ Road Name	Problem Definition	Solution
Completed 2009/10	District Wide - Clear Zone Upgrades	High crash rate due to 'struck objects' on high volume roads.	Remove or eliminate exposure of objects
Completed 2009/10	Cambridge Street on-road parking	Town centre parking	Pavement marking - alter street layout
Completed 2009/10	Richmond Ring Route signage	Finding car parks and town centre	Directional signs
2010/11	RM-7 trial	EMP's marking roadside hazards such as culverts.	Remove EMP and install RM-7
2010/11	Long Plain Road	Stock crossing road	Stock underpass construction due to start
2010/11	Gladstone Road	Gladstone Road undergrounding	Underground overhead power. Council contribution to Network Tasman. Work underway and due for completion shortly.
2010/11	Arterial/Tourist- routes (rural)	High proportion of District injury crashes. 62% lost control off road.	Reset delineation to new delineation strategy and provide shoulder widening on tortuous alignments and sections with high incidents of loss of control crashes. Upgrade work underway using road maintenance contractor.

Proposed year	Activity Description/ Road Name	Problem Definition	Solution
2010/11	District Wide - Shoulder widening	High proportion of District injury crashes. 62% lost control off road.	Target shoulder widening on loss of control curves. Priority ranking matrix developed. Factors used are Loss of control crash rates, road hierarchy, traffic volumes, road widths and treatment cost. Work to be tendered shortly.
2010/11	District Wide - Upgrade Street lighting	Poor Lighting	Street lighting Matrix developed. Street lighting contractor undertaking work.
2010/11	Pedestrian Crossing - Upgrade lighting	William Street pedestrian crossing unlit. Oxford Street pedestrian crossing poorly lit.	New crossing lighting.
2010/11	District Wide - Intersection priority control	No priority control - Delineation strategy includes priority on all intersections	Prioritise list from RAMM. Treat top intersections. Note: all intersections with Arterials and tourist routes to be treated project above for rural Arterial/Tourist route delineation project
2010/11	District Wide - Curve warning	Out of character curves require advance warning signage District Wide	Review list & review routes with numerous requests for signs, Dovedale, Motueka Valley West Bank, Kerr Hill. Note Arterials/Tourist routes treated under separate project.)
2010/11	District Wide - Clear zone/Guard-rail	Hazards within the clear zone. Includes non-compliant guard-rail ends and New Guard-rails	Gaud-rail risk assessment spreadsheet to be adapted for Council use. Once list is populated then can prioritise Guard-rail sites, clear-zone upgrades, or sight rail-chevron treatment
2010/11	Intersection Wensley/ Surrey Roads	Crossing very wide for pedestrians and difficult for mobility impaired.	Presently out for consultation. Realign intersection and reduce crossing distance for pedestrian and mobility users.
2010/11	Intersection Sundial Square at Croucher Street/ McGlashen Avenue	Pedestrian paths not well defined	Presently out for consultation. Install pedestrian refuge in Sundial Square roadway with new pram ramps and new pram ramps at disabled spaces in Sundial Square carpark.
2010/11	Existing Pedestrian Facility on Croucher Street between McGlashen Avenue and Talbot Street	Pedestrian refuge, marginal sight distance, high number turning vehicles creates complex crossing	Presently out for consultation. Reduce crossing distance and emphasis vehicle delineation

Proposed year	Activity Description/ Road Name	Problem Definition	Solution
2010/11	Ranzau Road at Ranzau School	Improve road crossing facility to assist children and parents walking between school and Community Church carpark on opposite side of road.	Install pedestrian crossing facilities such as kea crossing and/or kerb build-outs on both sides of road.
2010/11	Intersection Edward/ Queen Streets	Road crossing very wide for pedestrians	Presently out for consultation. Realign kerb and install splitter island.
2010/11	Intersection Cambridge/ Queen Streets	Pedestrian crossing point is offset from pedestrian desire line.	Presently out for consultation. Install splitter island to reduce crossing distance and new pram ramps.
2010/11	Intersection Edward/ William Streets	Road crossing very wide for pedestrians	Presently out for consultation. Throat intersection down by realigning kerb and install splitter island. Work includes relocation of school pedestrian crossing on William Street due to Henley School carpark redevelopment and include lighting to allow 24/7 use.
2010/11	Intersection Hill/ Queen Street	2009 Blackspot review recommends pedestrian improvements	Presently out for consultation. Alternative small round-about option to be developed.
2010/11	Intersection Wensley Road/ Crescent Street	Crossing difficult for pedestrians and mobility impaired as well as for side road traffic egress.	Presently consulting on preference to close off to vehicular traffic and re-route local traffic.
2010/11	Intersection Meihana/ Commercial Streets/ Waitapu/ Rototai Roads	High School and Primary School pedestrian access / crossing of intersection	Safety review pedestrian crossing facilities. Identify issues and report. To include NZTA Operations and request funding from them for any improvements.
2010/11	Moutere Highway at Upper Moutere	High number of crashes over 10 year period. Speed limit has been extended to include curve at Sunrise Valley Road intersection.	Investigate crash records - Extend urban treatment to threshold signs to slow vehicles. Combine with new footpath project from Sunrise Valley Road to Supplejack Valley Road.
2010/11	Intersection - Moutere Highway / Golden Hills/ Waimea West Roads	High number of crashes over 10 year period.	Investigate options for realigning or improving existing intersection. Review funding from either minor improvements or road reconstruction.

Proposed year	Activity Description/ Road Name	Problem Definition	Solution
2010/11	Lower Queen Street / Swamp Road	High number of crashes over 10 year period.	NZTA proposal to close Swamp Road at State Highway end - Investigate low cost options with seal widening and extending existing culvert. Guard-rail existing power pole.
2010/11	Lansdowne Road / Lower Queen Street	High number of crashes over 10 year period.	Has been investigated for re-alignment. Reviewing for separate funding as a standalone project under road reconstruction.
2010/11	Directional Signage - Arterial Routes Collingwood area	Inadequate directional signage to tourist destinations at end of SH60 and on Collingwood-Bainham Road at Collingwood-Puoponga Road (Whites Corner).	Concept developed. Proposal to be consulted on early 2011.
2010/11	Riwaka Kaiteriteri Road -Turner's Bluff	Poor geometry	Curve realignment (Currently on hold)
2010/11	Pah Street - Atkins Street - Grey Street	High crash rate reported by Police. High 2010 crash rate. High Speed alternative route to High St SH60, route via Grey/Pah/Atkins St.	Investigate options to slow turning traffic. Note problem may have become apparent with delays on High Street due to upgrade.
2010/11	Salisbury Road/Arbor-Lea Ave at Waimea College New Entrance – Intersection signalisation	Waimea College installing new access. Proposal to install traffic signals	Ministry of Education funding 50%

4 RECOMMENDATION

4.1 THAT the Engineering Services Committee receive the report, RESC-11-02-14 Minor Improvements Programme 2010-2011.

4.2 THAT the Engineering Services Committee approve the use of allocated funds to carry out the works identified in the Minor Improvements Programme Report RESC-11-02-14.

Gary Clark
Transportation Manager