

STAFF REPORT

TO: Chairman and Members, Engineering Services Committee
FROM: Peter Thomson, Engineering Manager
DATE: 7 October 2008
SUBJECT: **TRANSPORTATION REPORT**

1 MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS

- **General**

Completion of pavement and drainage maintenance work is the focus for the contractor now that weather conditions have improved, to bring the network back to the standard prior to recent storm events. Spring growth is presenting its usual challenges and the contractor has some ground to make up here, particularly with vegetation spraying. Routine bridge maintenance including cleaning and painting is also getting some deserved attention in the next few months.

- **New Road Maintenance Contracts**

Work is continuing with the preparation of documents for the two new contract areas which replace the existing Waimea Maintenance Contract. It is proposed that the urban/coastal contract be named "Tasman" and that "Waimea" be retained for the balance of the area. Documents are scheduled to be completed prior to Christmas. Contact has been made with the New Zealand Transport Agency over continuing the joint maintenance contract for the local roads in Golden Bay and State Highway 60 from the Kaiteriteri turnoff through to Collingwood.

- **Aniseed Hill**

With dryer conditions the slip appears to have stabilised. Geotechnical investigations have taken place on site with cooperation from adjacent landowner. Relevant background information from previous investigations is also being reviewed. Delivery of a report on recommended remediation measures is expected from MWH in October.

2 PROJECTS

- **Richmond Town Centre – Sundial Square**

Work is complete on the Sundial Square and the official opening on 6 September 2008 was the first of many great events that will hopefully be held in the space.

- **Richmond Ring Route**

As presented to the last Engineering Services Committee meeting the local road improvements necessary to implement the Richmond ring route is being programmed in the AMP/LTCCP.

- **King Edward Street Motueka - Kerb & Channel**

This work is being undertaken by Concrete & Metals and is approximately 85% complete. The work has been held up due to the weather as well as some additional entranceway work. Work is progressing and is now expected to be completed later this month.

- **Motueka Shared Path at Lower Moutere**

This project is nearing completion with only minor work to complete.

Both road markings and marker posts are yet to be installed. The installation of the marker posts have been delayed due a change in the specification requiring metal posts that are expected to last longer. These posts have been ordered and once the contractor takes delivery, will be installed as soon as practicable.

The following mock-up photos show the expected end result with the use of marker posts and two white edge lines where there is no grass separation strip and one line where there is this grass strip.



3 MINOR SAFETY PROGRAMME 2008/09

The following is a list of sites proposed for treatment this year. The list has been ordered loosely on priority as well as current commitments with either work in progress or awarded. The priority of this list was determined by creating a rating calculated from recorded crashes, traffic volume and roading hierarchy. This form of risk analysis whilst rudimentary it provides an objective and simplistic approach.

Council's Minor Safety Programme, now renamed Minor Road Improvements by NZTA has a current budget of \$874,000 and includes Professional fees. The funding is subsidised by NZTA at a funding assistance rate (FAR) of 59%. This work category is very useful as it enables Council to undertake safety improvement works of a minor nature to a maximum value of \$150,000, without needing to undertake an economic evaluation. Often many of the sites have no crash history or this is very low however there may be a history of near misses. The sites are generally identified by both roading personnel and road users, and are situations or factors that pose a higher risk and thereby through low cost solutions can reduce the chances of a potential crash.

The average cost of an accident including social costs on a road with a 100kph speed environment and regardless of vehicle type and movement range from \$23,000 for a minor injury accident to \$3,400,000 for a fatality.

Under the Governments Road Safety Strategy 2010, it goal is to bring New Zealand's road safety performance in 2010 up to the level already experienced by the safest countries in the world.

ROAD/TREATMENT	PROBLEM DEFINITION
Holdaway Road Splash (Current Commitment)	Poor alignment at new splash approach
Aorere Bridge - Guardrail (Current commitment)	Guardrail modifications required at vertical curve on bridge approach
Bridge Valley Road - Improved alignment (Current commitment)	Poor geometry along sections of proposed seal extension. Speeds will increase after sealing
Black Bridge (Current commitment)	Poor geometry on approach to bridge
Blackspot review - Crash analysis	Review sites identified with crash history and undertake low cost improvements or investigate long term solutions
Curve shape corrections – District-wide (from high-speed data analysis)	Poorly shaped/adverse camber curves causing loss of control or near misses.
Road delineation upgrades – District-wide	Poorly delineated main routes
Rural school dynamic signs	Increase awareness of children present and hence reduce speeds
Moutere Highway between Upper Moutere Town and Maisey Road (Cut Hill)	Loss of control crashes - poor alignment, narrow width combined with speed and shaded corners
Upper Moutere Village - Traffic Calming	Reduction in speed limit to 50km/h requires positive traffic calming measures to aid compliance
Lower Queen Street / Swamp Road Intersection	Speed on approach to intersection, lack of width on Queen Street for through and turning traffic
Motueka Valley Highway at Mytton Heights Intersection	Design realignment and produce land plan if required
Waverley St - Pedestrian facilities and threshold treatment	Many pre-schools and school in area. Wide carriageway a concern for pedestrians
Moutere Highway/Wilson Road intersection - widening	Tight radius at intersection
Oxford Street / Wensley Road intersection	High crash rate
Wensley Rd / Waverley St Intersection	Poor sight distance
Umukuri/Swamp Road intersection - Intersection treatment	Increase in crashes
Wensley Road / Surrey Rd intersection	Poor sight distance
Wensley Road / Queen Street Raised pedestrian platform	Pedestrians vulnerable when crossing Wensley Road

Lower Queen Street / Stratford Street intersection	Requires right turn lane
Waimea West/Palmers Road intersection	Pole close to road narrow seal, right turning traffic impedes through traffic
Waimea West footpath	Pedestrians walk on road to access river on outskirts of Brightwater
Aranui Road pram crossing/kerb realignment	Improve pedestrian access
Motupipi Street corner near Meihana Street and beside Fonterra Factory	Pedestrians walk on narrow shoulder close to moving traffic
Abel Tasman Drive lighting upgrade	Flag lights at various intersections
Motueka Valley Highway - Between Woodman's Corner and Ngatimoti	Trees growing close to edge of road, some dead or clinging precariously to bank
Streetlight upgrades in various urban areas	Old light technology and poor lighting
Krammer Street / Thorp Street streetlight	Light required
Arrow Street / Edward Street Wakefield - Pedestrian facility	Identified as issue from Wakefield School Travel Plan
Edward Street Wakefield - Kea Crossing	Identified from Wakefield School Travel Plan
Paton Road vertical curve between White and Ranzau Roads	Poor alignment and limited sight distance
Tutaki Road South - Widening	Narrow section of road with high truck use and no safe passing opportunities
Tadmor-Bushend/Fairhall Road intersection	Lack of visibility as well as steep approach from side road
Tadmor-Bushend Road - Sherry River Bridge approaches	Extend seal on approaches to bridge and include Hewitt Road intersection
Kaiteriteri-Sandy Bay Road	Various Corner improvements
Hamama Road Stock Underpass	Subsidy allocation for proposed stock underpass
Wangapeka River road widening at route position 4km	Narrow section of road with no safe passing opportunities - logging trucks using road



Black Bridge (Single Lane) – Motueka Valley Highway (800vehicles per day)



Swamp Road/Queen Street Intersection – Turning traffic obstructs through traffic (7000 vpd)



Wilson Road/Moutere Highway – High truck numbers entering and leaving saw-mill



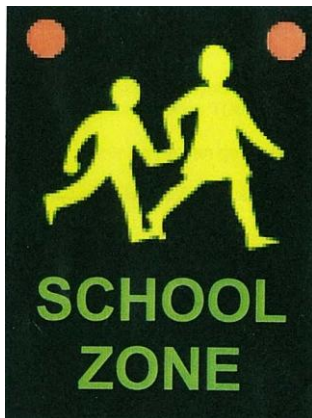
Waimea West Road/Palmer Road Intersection. Similar problem to intersections above. Localised seal widening to allow through traffic to pass. Note proximity of pole to traffic lane.



Waimea West Road at Brightwater – Safety footpath required to provide safe access to river.



Paton Rd – Isolated vertical curve between White and Ranzau Roads. Propose to lower crest to provide safe sight lines



Another device in the tool box to alert drivers. However not a solution for all sites. Ideal on routes with higher numbers of drivers unfamiliar with the road.

4 ROAD SAFETY COORDINATION

Fatigue awareness campaign

This will be a joint campaign with ACC and Marlborough District Council and like last year vouchers will be distributed which will entitle the vehicle driver to a free coffee, tea or bottled water at designated cafes across the top of the South Island. These vouchers will again be distributed via the Interislander ferries, the NZ Police, campgrounds etc.

In another joint project with ACC, NCC, Marlborough District Council and the NZ Transport Agency a "top of the south" road safety map will be produced. As well as showing roads and state highways it will provide general driving advice and highlight specific safety information such as hazardous road conditions and high crash areas.

Motorcycle training courses

A very successful beginner motorcycle training course was held in September. This course was full. Another beginner/intermediate course and an advanced course are planned for late November. Both these courses only have 1-2 spaces left and names are being taken for future courses.

Road safety billboards

The next round of billboard safety images are in place with messages to highlight the particular crash history at each site.

Cycle courses

Regular cycle maintenance courses are now being held through the community education classes at Motueka High School and Waimea College. Upcycle courses are being run weekly in Richmond for those that have some skills and confidence, but provide further advice on best routes to take and help at intersections and roundabouts.

Safe-with-Age

The first Richmond Safe-with-Age course has been organized for this financial year. These course help older drivers improve their knowledge of the road code, improve confidence in today's traffic, give advice on best times to drive and talk about staying mobile when participants are no longer able to drive.

School Travel Plans

Two Tasman District schools are currently working through the School Travel Plan process. Wakefield's plan is near completion and will be adopted by the school, Council, NZ Police and the wider school community. Brightwater have just completed the survey process. Schools along Salisbury Road are currently being approached to start the School Travel Plan process at the start of Term 1 in 2009.

Car seat education

Plunket and Buckle Bear continue to visit early childhood centres in the district to educate children, parents and staff on the correct use of car seats.

TDC website

The road safety coordinator role and the road safety projects that are run in the district are now included on Council's website. This website presence will be further developed with photos and links to other sites. The Skid Lid Kids website is also being updated with current photos and event information to make this site more interactive including regularly updating the photos to encourage users to visit more frequently.

Feet First Walk to School 2009

The NZ Transport Agency is currently reviewing the Feet First walk to school programme. Krista has been invited to a consultation meeting on in Wellington along with others who have been involved in the review process.

Professional Development

Krista attended the Trafanz (New Zealand Local Authority Traffic Institute) conference in September. Trafanz represents local authority views on road safety and traffic management and exists to lobby government and influence decision making on road safety and traffic issues. It is also a forum for collectively pursuing traffic issues of interest to local authorities, and sharing information and advice. During the conference the Safe and Sustainable Association (SASTA) hold their annual AGM. SASTA developed from the NZ Road Safety Coordinators Association and has moved from just a road safety focus to the delivery of safe and sustainable activities in New Zealand. Each region has a representative on the SASTA executive and Krsita was elected to represent the top of the South Island replacing Marg Parfitt from Nelson City Council.

5 RIVERS

Gravel Relocation Works

The processing of the twelve resource consent applications for a variety of sites is progressing with Environment & Planning. Work this month has focused on developing a detailed set of monitoring conditions to be attached to the Environmental Impact Assessment for each resource consent.

Wai-iti Irrigation Weir

The contractor will be building the structure just below the Waimea West Bridge at the western end of Ellis Street, Brightwater during October-November 2008.

Back Block Roding - Rameka Creek

A recent flood event caused about \$25-30,000 worth of damage to access tracks in the Rameka Creek area. An access track built on unformed legal road reserve is the most affected track.

The Back Blocks Roding budget has, in the past, occasionally provided small grants for the maintenance of such accesses. There is a proviso that the landowners have to be prepared to bring the road up to a standard agreed by the Engineering Manager. This is likely to require a budget well in excess of the repair works estimate.

Meetings with the landowners are progressing and the recommended course of action has not been yet been determined. A report will be presented at the next meeting.

Motueka Stopbank Project

The draft programme to work through the design and construction of the renovated stopbank system at Motueka is being assessed. A Council workshop to consider the implications is programmed.

6 TENDERS

Tenders awarded since the last meeting:

No.	Contract name	No. of tenders	Successful tenderer	Amount	Highest amount	TDC estimate	Budget for this item	Comment
738	Black Bridge widening	2	Fulton Hogan	\$849,228	\$1,212,765	\$743,728	-	Funding from several different work categories

7 RECOMMENDATION

THAT this report be received.

Peter Thomson
Engineering Manager