

Director of Land Transport  
50 Victoria Street  
Private Bag 6998  
Wellington 6141

5 October 2023

File: Share Point/Road  
Use Approvals /Speed  
Limits

Dear Sir / Madam

### **DIRECTOR APPROVAL UNDER ALTERNATIVE METHODS FOR SPEED LIMIT CHANGES ON ROADS IN UPPER HUTT**

Upper Hutt Council has approved the lowering of the speed limit on three roads in Upper Hutt to comply with the Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2022 ('The Rule'). The consultation for the proposed changes was undertaken on the following dates:

- The Interim Speed Management plan (ISMP) was workshopped with Council in February 2023, and approved for consultation on the 8th of March 2023. The consultation period ran from 17 March 2023 to 14 April 2023.
- The ISMP was to accelerate work on reaching the 40% requirement for reduced speed limits around schools. 67% of respondents supported the proposed changes detailed in the ISMP, and 23% requested further safety improvements.
- The ISMP consultation provided valuable feedback about perceived high-risk areas in Upper Hutt, particularly for children.
- Council, on the 19th of July 2023, opted to **not** make a decision on all the ISMP recommendations, other than the speed reductions on Alexander Road/Messines Avenue and Moonshine Hill Road. as follows:
  1. approves the reduction in the posted speed limit on those sections of Alexander Road and Messines Avenue that currently have a 80km/h speed limit to 50km/h.
  2. approves the reduction in the posted speed limit on those sections of Moonshine Hill Road and Kirton Drive (part only) that currently have a 100km/h speed limit to 60km/h; and
  3. authorises officers to submit an Interim Speed Management Plan incorporating the decisions approved above to the Director of Land Transport Waka Kotahi (NZ Transport Agency) for the registration/approval of the changes in speed limits.
- Following the above decision, and to further extend the area of the speed management plan, a workshop was held on the 22th August 2023 and four approaches were presented to the Council. These ranged from the legal minimum, to blanket citywide speed reductions in line with Waka Kotahi guidance. Council selected a modified version of Option 2, which was titled 'Targeted Safety Improvements'.

- Option 2 utilised fixed 30km/h speed limits at most schools and in the city centre, and variable speed limit at schools located on arterial roads. It also proposed additional speed restrictions at high pedestrian areas, such as neighbourhood centres.
- The Draft Speed Management Plan (DSMP) and Approval to consult was presented to Council on the 20th September 2023 and was approved.
- This DSMP went out for consultation on the 4th October 2023 meeting the 5th October deadline.

The reasons requesting approval under the alternative method are:

- The consultation for the proposed changes on Alexander Road and Messines Avenue and Moonshine Hill Road and part Kirton Drive has met the requirements as set out in 'The Rule'
- The Council endorses the proposed changes.
- Upper Hutt City Council is well on its way with the Draft Speed Management Plan. Consultation commenced on the 4th October 2023

The attachments included with the letter:

- -Links to the agenda and the minutes of the Upper Hutt City Council Policy Committee meeting of 19 July 2023 seeking the endorsement to the Council. The report includes the details regarding proposed changes and consultation. The relevant decisions in the minutes are
  1. P 230404 Alexander Road and Messines Avenue
  2. P 230405 Moonshine Hill Road and Kirton Drive

Details of the Speed Limit changes including the plans, results of the consultation together with the safety infrastructure changes are tabulated below.

We appreciate your consideration of the proposed speed limits and look forward to hearing from you shortly.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,



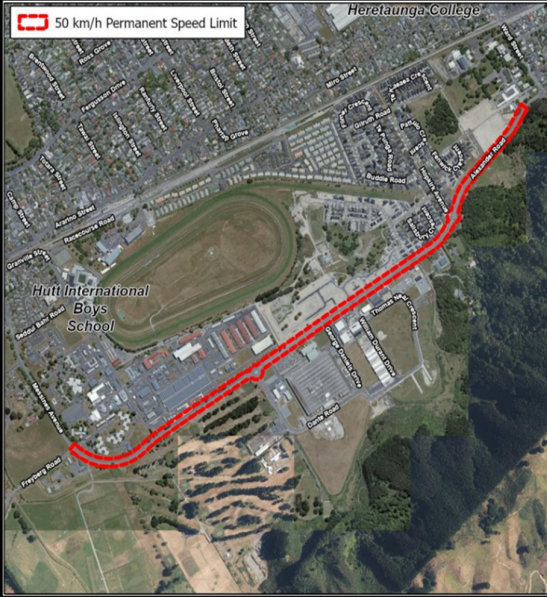
**Geoff Swainson**  
**Director of Asset Management and Operations**

**Attachment 1: Policy Committee (19 July 2023) Agenda**  
<https://www.upperhuttcity.com/files/assets/public/v/2/yourcouncil/meetings/2023/cycle-4/agenda-policy-20230719.pdf>

**Attachment 2: Policy Committee (19 July 2023) Minutes**  
<https://www.upperhuttcity.com/files/assets/public/v/2/yourcouncil/meetings/2023/cycle-4/policy-minutes-20230719.pdf>

## Plan of the Speed limit changes for Alexander Road and Messines Avenue(part)

### Alexander Road and Messines Avenue



50 km/h Permanent Speed Limit

Heretaunga College

Hutt International Boys School

Alexander Road

Messines Avenue

14. approves the reduction in the posted speed limit on those sections of Alexander Road and Messines Avenue that currently have a 80km/h speed limit to 50km/h

**Table 1 – Speed limit changes – Alexander Road and Messines Avenue**

Road/area	Existing speed limit (km/h)	Proposed speed limit (km/h)	Speed limit type	Implementation timeframe	Is proposed speed limit different from the Waka Kotahi confirmed assessment of safe and appropriate speed (SAAS) limit?	Further information	Dates and times
<p><b>Alexander Road and Messines Avenue (part)</b></p> <p><u>On Messines Ave</u> from just south of the intersection with Freyberg Road to the intersection with Alexander Road.</p> <p><u>On Alexander Road</u> from the intersection with Messines Ave to just south of the intersection with Lane and Ward Streets</p>	80	50	Permanent	Year 1	Yes	<p>Based on Mega Maps Road to Zero Edition 2</p> <p>a. Messines Ave from Freyberg Rd to the intersection with Alexander Road (the bend in front of the Trentham Rifle Range) - <b>40km/h</b>;</p> <p>b. Alexander Road from the intersection with Messines Road to the roundabout at Dante Road <b>40km/h</b>.</p> <p>c. Alexander Road from the roundabout at Dante Road to the roundabout at Hopkirk Ave - <b>40km/h</b>; and</p> <p>d. Alexander Road from the roundabout at Hopkirk Ave to Ward Street – <b>40 km/h</b>. (This section had a roundabout installed in Dec 2022).</p> <p>The Wallaceville housing development next to Alexander Road proposes to have 10-11 properties with direct vehicle access off Alexander Road between Dahl Drive and Hopkirk Avenue. The Scheme Plan Approval for this part of the development is conditional upon a speed limit of 50km/h.</p>	11 December 2023

## RESULTS OF THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION

### Alexander Road and Messines Avenue (part)

48 letters dropped to residents living within the boundaries or near the proposed changes. There were 94 responses to the consultation with 71 (75%) in agreement and 23 (25%) against the proposal.

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### Plan of the Speed limit changes for Moonshine Hill Road (part) and Kirton Drive (part)

### Moonshine Hill Road and Kirton Drive



15. approves the reduction in the posted speed limit on those sections of Moonshine Hill Road and Kirton Drive that currently have a 100km/h speed limit to 60km/h

In Maunahara o Te Awa Kaurangi ki Uta | Upper Hutt City Council

**Table 2 – Speed limit changes – Moonshine Hill road and Kirton Drive**

Road/area	Existing speed limit (km/h)	Proposed speed limit (km/h)	Speed limit type	Implementation timeframe	Is proposed speed limit different from the Waka Kotahi confirmed assessment of safe and appropriate speed (SAAS) limit?	Further information	Dates and times
<p><b>Moonshine Hill Road</b></p> <p><b><u>Moonshine Hill road</u></b> from the intersection with State Highway 2 to the intersection with Kirton Drive and 60 metres north along Moonshine Hill Road and <b><u>Kirton Drive</u></b> (approx. 70m north of intersection with Moonshine Hill Road to the intersection with Moonshine Hill road (roundabout))</p>	100	60	Permanent	Year 1	NO.	<p>Based on Mega Maps Road to Zero Edition 2.</p> <p>The SAAS is 60km/h</p> <p>The adjacent section (60 metres) of Moonshine Hill Road north of the roundabout with Kirton Drive is 60 km/h and approx. 70 metres north of the roundabout on Kirton Drive is 50km/h leading into the residential area.</p>	11 December 2023

## RESULTS OF THE PUBLIC CONSULTATION Moonshine Hill Road (part) and Kirton Drive (part)

There were no letters dropped off to residents. There are no residents living within the boundaries or near the proposed speed limit changes due to the rural nature of the 100 km/h environment.

There were 94 responses to the consultation with 71 (75% ) in agreement and 23( 25% ) against.

Table 2 – Safety Infrastructure changes

Location	Proposed change	Year of commencement	Funding certainty (committed or not committed)	Further information
<b>Alexander Road and Messines Avenue</b>	Signs only	Y1	Committed	Intersection improvements on Alexander Road (roundabouts) and Give - Way controls already in place.
<b>Moonshine Hill Road and Kirton Drive</b>	Signs only	Y1	Committed	