

Social Impact Assessment Summary

This study helped us better understand the community's concerns with the project as presented at the last open day.

Interviews were conducted with a range of resident, business, school and key stakeholder representatives.

The social impact assessment recorded participants' positive and negative thoughts on the highway's potential impacts, and their suggestions for dealing with these impacts.

Positive perceptions of the project:

- Improved access to the airport via the main access point of Memorial Avenue
- An overall improvement in travel times (and costs) on SH1 and Memorial Avenue (to the airport)
- Reduced congestion on roads running around the city like Greers and Grahams Road across the city
- Improved safety, particularly through the new interchange.

Negative perception of the project:

- Separation of the airport from the rest of the city
- Social severance with the loss of the crossing point and right turns at Wairakei Road and Avonhead Road
- Drivers choosing alternative local road routes, particularly Roydvale Avenue and Harewood Road will increase congestion and decrease safety on these roads
- Increase congestion at intersections which are already exhibit problems coping with traffic volumes
- Pedestrians and cyclists will have more difficulties crossing busy roads, particularly at the entrance points to the Roydvale and Harewood schools.

This information has helped identify the issues we need to solve when finalising the highway design.

We are working with the Christchurch City Council to upgrade the Wooldridge/Harewood intersection.

The social impact assessment also identified a number of existing issues in the surrounding area that NZTA has no control over (like parking) but we will ensure the City Council are made aware of these.



This panel summarises the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) done by the NZTA to help understand the social impacts of the proposal