



SH90 TAPANUI SPEED REVIEW

Summary of the speed review consultation

WAKA KOTAHI NZ TRANSPORT AGENCY

OCTOBER 2020

1. BACKGROUND

During October and November 2019 Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency consulted on a safe and appropriate speed limit on a 200 metre section of road on the SH90 southern approach into Tapanui.

Over the last five years highway speeds on SH90 at the southern entrance into Tapanui have and continue to be, a major worry for locals, especially for businesses and those living adjacent to the highway. These concerns are also shared by the Clutha District Council (CDC) and local Police staff. Currently there is a 100km/h speed limit on a 200 metre section of highway before the 50km/h speed limit into the town. In October and November 2019 Waka Kotahi consulted on moving the current 50km/h south-west highway speed change point on SH90 at the southern entrance to Tapanui 200m south-west toward Gore.

Ahead of formal consultation on this proposal we met with community and local business representatives. All of them supported our proposal. They felt it would help address the safety risks posed by the current 100km/h speed limit especially with more businesses operating along this highway corridor and a new residential development on this 200m highway corridor.

Waka Kotahi is committed to making our highways safer for everyone, so they get to where they are going safely. The best way to achieve this on the SH90 southern approach into Tapanui was to review the existing highway speed limit.

2. CONSULTATION PROCESS

Before starting the formal consultation process, we completed numerous steps, including a speed management technical assessment of this section of highway. This identified the existing speed limit on the road wasn't safe or appropriate for the current roadside environment that now has a new residential development and more businesses.

Pre consultation engagement with the community and our transport partners provided good feedback and local insights on how people use the road, and what their main concerns are. This helped us decide if a speed limit change was the best option to improve road safety on this section of highway, where new speed limits might start and end, and if any other safety improvements were needed.

During October and November 2019 Waka Kotahi formally consulted on moving the current 50km/h south-west highway speed change point on SH90 at the southern entrance to Tapanui 200m south-west toward Gore. Consultation materials provided evidence including current travel speeds and the characteristics of the road environment that supported 50km/h as a safe and appropriate speed limit for this section of highway.

The consultation was advertised and promoted via a variety of social and print media channels used by our target audiences. A news release went to local media about consultation starting, and this received wide coverage. Feedback could be made on this proposal either electronically or on hard copy submission forms. The latter were available from Clutha District Council service centres and libraries, as well as local businesses. NZ Post delivered hard copy submission forms to all homes, businesses and PO Boxes within a 10km radius of Tapanui.

3. CONSULTATION QUESTION

The consultation phase is used to seek any additional information from stakeholders or the public that will help inform the decision about this proposed speed limit change.

During formal consultation we proposed a new speed limit and asked the following question “**Are there any other factors that we should consider when making our decision?**”

The factors that were taken into consideration when proposing the new speed limits are covered in this document.

4. SUMMARY AND RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS

We received 73 submissions. We appreciate the response from the community and thank everyone who provided their feedback.

The relevant factors that were expressed in the feedback from the public are summarised in the table below

Waka Kotahi comment	
<p><u>Extending the speed review</u> Some of those who provided feedback wanted the speed review corridor extended to include other areas outside the scope of the review, including the SH90 northern entrance into Tapanui.</p>	<p>We will review the northern entrance into Tapanui as part of future review of SH90 between Raes Junction and Tapanui. The current 50km/h speed limit through the township is 50km/h Tapanui which is within the safe and appropriate speed range. The focus of this speed review was to determine and implement a safe and appropriate speed limit for the SH90 southern entrance into Tapanui.</p>
<p><u>Safe access to the highway</u> Many residents living along the highway are concerned about the safety of accessing the highway from their properties.</p>	<p>This is the main reason we carried out a speed review on this section of highway, to ensure a safe and appropriate speed limit for this section of highway.</p>
<p><u>Pedestrian safety</u> Several submitters said the current 100km/h speed limit put pedestrians, especially children and the elderly, at risk from vehicles entering the town at high speed.</p>	<p>These concerns were one of the major reasons we agreed to consider speed management changes at this location to make this section of highway safer.</p>
<p><u>Speed enforcement</u> Many of the submissions we received were from people concerned about speeding vehicles including large trucks travelling on the southern entrance into Tapanui. They wanted more police enforcement of any new limit, including speed cameras, otherwise a lower speed limit would be to no avail.</p>	<p>We will talk with the local road policing team about stepping up enforcement to meet the local community’s desire for increased enforcement of the new speed limit.</p>

Waka Kotahi comment

<p><u>Signage</u> There were calls from some submitters for the installation of more visible signs like the large 50km/h signs used at the nearby township of Clinton.</p>	<p>Threshold signage will be installed to ensure highway driver entering Tapanui from the south are aware of the new lower and safer speed limit.</p>
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5. DECISION

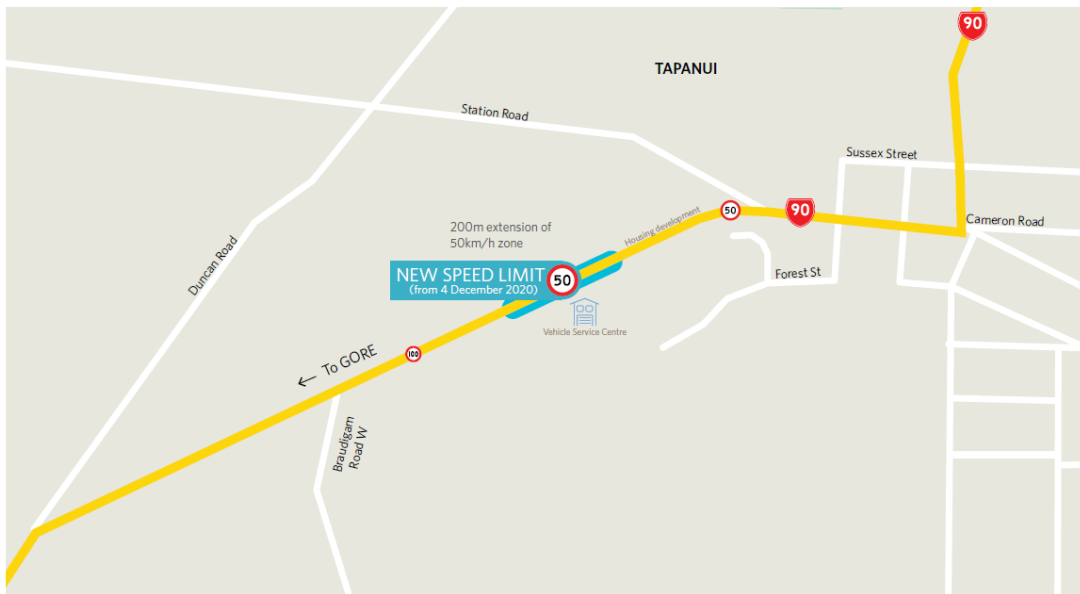
This table shows the recommendations Waka Kotahi formally consulted on between October and November 2019.

	Current	Proposed new limit
Extend the existing 50km/h speed limit 200m south toward Gore from where the existing 50km/h speed limit ends.	100km/h	50km/h

The consultation submissions didn't identify any issues that Waka Kotahi hadn't already considered. The speed review outcome was in line with the proposed speed limit change. The following new speed limit outlined below will apply from Friday 4 December 2020:

SH90 Tapanui	Existing speed limits	New speed limit from Friday, 4 December 2020
From the existing 50km/h speed limit 200m south on SH90 toward Gore from where the current 50km/h speed limit ends.	100km/h	50km/h

Tapanui new permanent speed limit



New Zealand Government

6. SUBMISSIONS

You can view the submissions we received for this speed review [here](#).