

Traffic Note 53

Date January 2005
From Safer Roads
Authorisation Peter Croft, Manager Safer Roads

Signature _____

No. of pages 2

Revision of guidelines for road safety audit and the treatment of crash locations – Information

Road safety audit procedures for projects

In November 2004, Transfund New Zealand (now part of Land Transport New Zealand) published and distributed to road controlling authorities the revised guideline *Road Safety Audit Procedures for Projects*. The new guideline replaces that published by Transit New Zealand (Transit) in 1993. It retains the philosophy of the Transit guideline and includes more advice, for example, on the skills and experience of audit team members. It does not apply to existing road audits.

An industry working party assisted Transfund to review road safety audit policy and procedures. It made recommendations to Transfund on policy options and revised the Transit guideline. Transfund adopted the recommended safety audit policy, which came into force on 1 July 2004 (General Circular 04/05) and has now been included in the new guideline.

The guideline is available electronically at <http://www.landtransport.govt.nz/man.html#tfm9> where the checklists can be downloaded separately as Word documents. Alternatively, a hard copy is available from Ian Appleton (email ian.appleton@landtransport.govt.nz or phone 04 916 4271).

New Zealand guide to the treatment of crash locations

In December 2004 Land Transport NZ published *A New Zealand Guide to the Treatment of Crash Locations*. It is a companion document to the recently published Austroads *Guide to Traffic Engineering Practice: Part 4 Treatment of Crash Locations* (2004).

The New Zealand guide promotes a consistent, best practice approach to the investigation and treatment of road crash locations. It sets out a process for regular review of crash locations and means of achieving crash reductions at those locations.

Development of this guide was managed by the Land Transport Safety Authority (LTSA – now part of Land Transport NZ), as one of the *Road Safety to 2010* strategy projects. A stakeholder group directed its development and gave feedback on various drafts; a consultation draft was released for public submissions in August 2004; and the document was finalised based on the comments received.

Adoption of the guide will ensure treatment of crash locations is undertaken in a way that is consistent with best practice and meets Land Transport NZ's funding requirements.

The *Programme and Funding Manual* contains a work category for crash reduction studies which requires studies to be conducted in accordance with Ministry of Transport/Transit New Zealand *Accident Investigation Procedures* (January 1991). This reference will be changed to require studies to be conducted in accordance with the new guide.

A complimentary copy of the guide has been forwarded to road controlling authorities and an electronic copy will be available on the Land Transport NZ website shortly. Alternatively, you can order a hard copy by phoning 0800 699 000 or emailing order@landtransport.govt.nz.

Workshops

Land Transport NZ, with support from the New Zealand Institute of Highway Technology (NZIHT), will be presenting seven regional workshops around the country between 14 and 23 March to explain and promote both these guides.

For further information regarding the workshops please contact the NZIHT Course Co-ordinator Lisa Knowles (email lisa@nziht.co.nz or phone 06 759 7065).