



Speed review of SH10 Awanui to Taipā

Too many people are being killed and seriously injured in crashes on State Highway 10 between Awanui and Taipā, so the NZ Transport Agency has been looking at whether a lower speed limit could make the road safer.

To help us fully understand the issues on the road we have asked locals to give us their views on speed on this road.

From 2009 to 2018, there were 151 crashes. Three people died and 12 were seriously injured

WHAT WE DID

We held a drop in session in Kaitaia, to talk to people face to face and invited people to give feedback online, by feedback form and by email. We also talked to local hapu, businesses and organisations based along the road, the council, and a range of road user representative groups including the AA, freight groups, Police, Fire and Emergency.

We had many useful conversations and received more than 500 pieces of feedback.

WHAT WE HEARD

The main feedback themes were:

Speed through Kareponia and Kaingaroa

People felt lower speeds were justified between Awanui and Kaingaroa. People supported lower speeds here especially at Kareponia and Kaingaroa.

People felt even the proposed 80km/h was not low enough for Kareponia and Kaingaroa. Many people felt 50km/h or 60km/h would be better in these villages.



We will now formally consult on reducing the speed from 100km/h to 80km/h for this length.



We have initiated a project to investigate how roading improvements could help further lower speeds in rural villages. Following the speed review, we will continue to monitor the speed and see if there is a case for further reductions.

Speed between Taipā and Kaingaroa

Most people think the road between Kaingaroa and Taipā is safe at 100km/h



Further analysis on this section of the road shows there are significantly fewer crashes. The local community have asked for the open road speed limit to be retained, this section is proposed to remain at 100km/h and will be monitored.

Speed between Awanui and Waimanoni Road

Some people felt the speed limit on SH1 between Awanui and Waimanoni Road should also be reviewed.



We are considering reviewing the speed limit on this section of the corridor at later date.

Dangerous driving

Many people commented on dangerous driving by other drivers – such driving too fast for the conditions, dangerous overtaking.

Placement of signs

Awanui has grown and the speed limit sign on SH10 needs to be moved back further past the house movers.



As part of our formal consultation, we will be proposing to move the sign back to east of the house movers.

Speed around schools

People supported lower speeds around schools especially in Taipā and Kaingaroa.



Speed around schools will be reviewed as part of the national programme to lower speeds around schools.

Poor road condition

People were concerned at the poor condition and design of the road – particularly how narrow the road is in a number of areas.



Our maintenance team has been asked to look into this.

WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN NEXT?

We've read all the feedback and used these insights along with our technical analysis of what is the safe and appropriate speed for this road. Based on this we will be coming back to the community in October to formally consult on proposed lower speed limits for this road.

Changing the speed limit is a legal process, the formal consultation will cover off the details of what new speed limits we are proposing and the community will have an opportunity to let us know if there are any other factors that we should consider when making our decision.