

Doesn't wish to speak at hearings.

Submission to the Annual Plan regarding Courtesy Crossings (Pedestrian Platforms)

These platforms rely on vehicles travelling at lower speeds to protect pedestrians. This is achieved by having a speed limit in the CBD of 30 km/h & by having the crossings raised above street level, effectively creating a speed bump. Most of the 30 km/h signs are too close to the intersections with the result being that most drivers do not see them, especially visitors, who are not aware that we have a 30 km/h zone in the CBD. e.g. On Maxwell Road, the 30 km/h sign is only 12 metres from the roundabout that the driver has just exited after concentrating on traffic & other hazards. Suggestion — Move the 30 km/h signs further away from intersections (40 to 50 metres) so that drivers have a bit of straight road which would give them a chance to see them. A 30 in a circle should also be painted on the road at the same point using non slip paint.

Some Courtesy Crossings force drivers to reduce speed when coming from one direction only. e.g. Maxwell Road (70 metres of raised platform), Queen Street to Maxwell Road, Market Street (raised outside BNZ & reduces to street level at High Street). So these are not actually speed bumps & drivers could easily get up to 50 km/h if they are not aware of the 30km/h restriction.

When it comes to safety, it is important to have certainty, not something that is airy fairy. The law says that traffic has right of way, yet the Road Code tells drivers to be courteous & give way to pedestrians. Mixed message for those that have taken the time to read it. Most tourists from overseas know nothing about our so called Courtesy Crossings & some Kiwi pedestrians still think that they have right of way.

Two scenarios — 1. An overseas tourist is hit on a Courtesy Crossing. From a Health & Safety point of view, how have the Council mitigated the hazard that they have created?

2. Same scenario. The injured person is covered by ACC, but, if they can prove gross negligence, they are then entitled to sue the persons responsible, especially if there is nothing to tell them that traffic has right of way.

Accidents do happen & there have been 2 in Richmond in the last 5 or 6 years where they have big speed bumps that can only be negotiated at about 15 km/h.

Suggestion — Install signs at Courtesy Crossings advising that traffic has right of way.

Councillors should not be swayed by retailers who object to such signs in the CBD. Safety must come first.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rex Dovey
Ph 5788153
027 442 331

RECEIVED

10 MAY 2017

MARLBOROUGH
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Nch

