



Date: 29 August 2023

Approval for speed limit changes using the Alternative Method
Tinakori Road and Hill Street, Wellington

Proposed speed limit reductions in Wellington City to support delivery of transitional walk, bike and bus improvements

On January 20th, 2023 Wellington City Council obtained authorisation from Waka Kotahi to use the alternative method for setting speed limits for Hill Street and Tinakori Road under the Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2022. The Council undertook public consultation between March 6th and 24th in respect of the proposed speed limit change, and on May 11th 2023 the Council (Regulatory Processes Committee) determined under rule 2.6(5) that the Committee:

Agrees to set a permanent speed limit of 30 km/h on Tinakori Road between 235 Tinakori Road and 26 Glenmore Street and the entirety, coming into force when design changes are installed in late 2023, pending Waka Kotahi approval.

In accordance with Waka Kotahi authorisation, this memo sets out the background to the Council decision, and seeks final authorisation by Waka Kotahi for the speed limit change to enable the issuing of the appropriate land transport record.

Background to transitional programme

On 23 September 2021, Councillors gave approval to consult on a connected citywide bike network that will make streets safer and healthier for everyone.

Officers had been asked to look at how the delivery of a bike network could be accelerated, and a new approach was developed to deliver the proposed routes faster.

The transitional programme approach uses adaptable materials so that interim improvements can be installed quickly, and people can start using the routes faster, and then give feedback so the route changes can be refined further for future permanent improvements.

This new approach and the full bike network plan, [Paneke Pōneke](#), went out for consultation in November 2021, and was approved by Councillors on 10 March 2022.

Through Paneke Pōneke and the Bus Priority Action Plan, the transitional programme is rebalancing how we use our existing street space to give people more options for how they get around.

These changes will make it easier for people on bikes, scooters, and buses to move safely around the city.

Scope and rationale for speed limit reductions

While the transitional programme aims to deliver safe, protected bike lanes wherever possible, there are some areas where this is not able to be delivered. In these areas, where no physical protection can be provided, safer speeds are sometimes sought to reduce the risk of conflict between people on bikes and vehicles.

While extensive network-wide speed changes in Wellington City will be considered as part of a city-wide speed management plan in 2023, endorsement by Waka Kotahi was obtained to make small speed changes to support improved safety as part of the rapid roll-out of the Thorndon Connections projects, to be delivered in late 2023.

The maps below indicate the sections of the Thorndon Connections routes that have been approved by Wellington City Council for speed limit reductions, following public consultation in March 2023.

The table below outlines that both the proposed changes in Tinakori align with the Safe and Appropriate Speed (SAAS) in MegaMaps. The Tinakori changes are in areas that MegaMaps identifies as having a 40kph SAAS. For these two short sections of narrow road, 30kph is sought to align with best practice for safe cycling in shared environments and to provide consistency on the network for road users.

Safe and appropriate speeds

Area	Street	Current speed limit	Safe and Appropriate Speed	Proposed speed limit
Thorndon	Tinakori Road- from 382 Tinakori Road to 246 Tinakori Road.	50	40	30
Thorndon	Glenmore Street- from 2 Glenmore Street to 30 Glenmore Street	50	40	30



Thorndon	Hill Street	50	30	30
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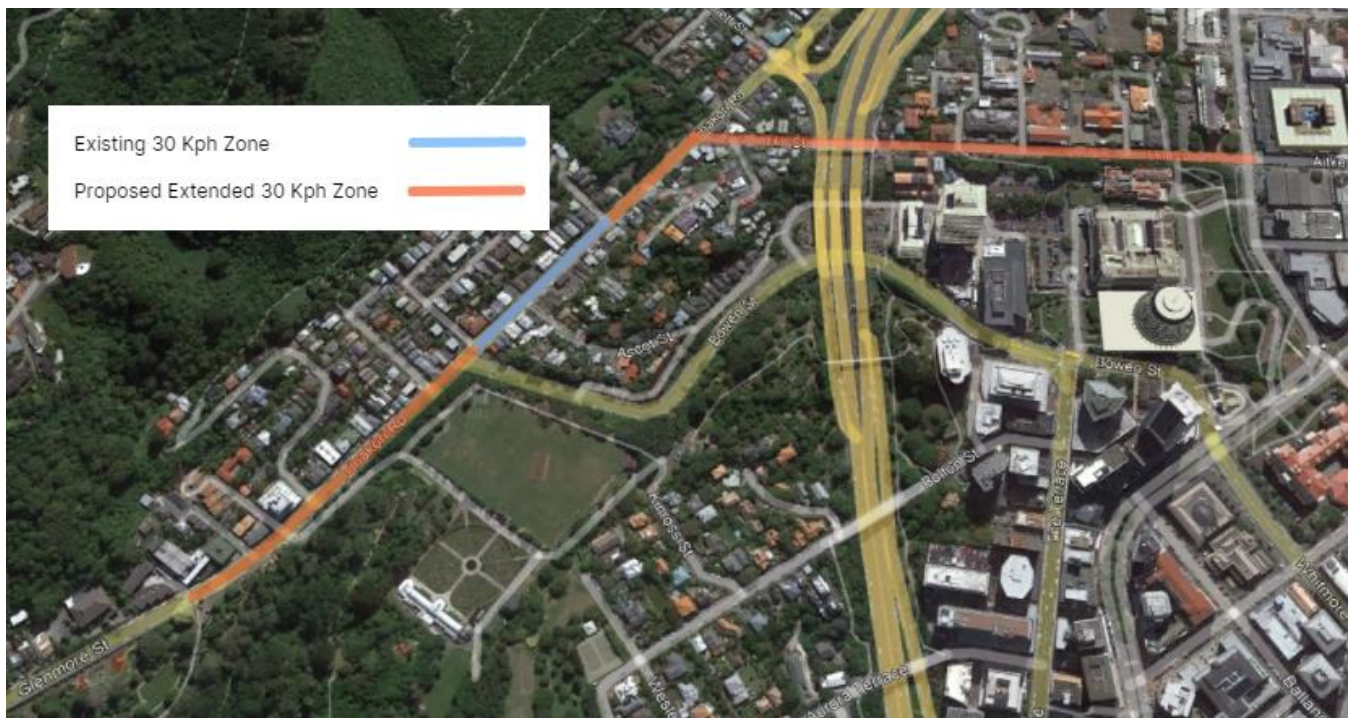
Results of public consultation

Public consultation was recently undertaken on the speed limit reductions, as part of the traffic resolution consultation for the street layout changes.

Extending the existing 30kph zone on Tinakori to the Botanic Garden entrance and down Hill St. received 77% support during the consultation process with suggestions that these changes should be rolled out further in the area.

The Wellington City Council Regulatory Processes Committee – Koata Hātepe – considered oral submissions on April 20, 21 & 24th and approved the speed limit reductions on Glenmore and Tinakori at their committee meeting on May 11th with Hill St. Changes being approved August 28th. Submissions received can be found at: Thorndon Submission Summary

MAP OF THORNDON CONNECTIONS SPEED CHANGE PROPOSALS



Approval sought

Wellington City Council are seeking approval from the Director of Land Transport, Waka Kotahi to approve these changes, as outlined in the Setting the Speed Limit Rule, 2022.