

Chairperson and Community Board Members
ŌTAKI COMMUNITY BOARD

2 FEBRUARY 2016

Meeting Status: **Public**

Purpose of Report: For Decision

TE HORO BEACH ROAD ONE WAY PRIORITY CHANGE

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 This report seeks the Ōtaki Community Board's (OCB) approval to change the Give Way Priority on the one-way bridge at 157 Te Horo Beach Road.

DELEGATION

- 2 Section 10.17 of the Governance Structure and Delegations 2013-2016 Triennium gives the Community Board the:

“Authority to approve or reject officer recommendations relating to all traffic control and signage matters in relation to existing local roads within the Community Board's area, except for changes to speed restrictions on local roads. (The latter power has been delegated to the Regulatory Management Committee).”

BACKGROUND

- 3 There are two one-way bridges on Te Horo Beach Road, the eastern most bridge is adjacent to 157 Te Horo Beach Road and the western bridge near the junction of Te Horo Beach Road and Pukenuamu Road. These bridges are an ongoing cause of concern to local residents but the structures themselves are sound and well within their 100 year design life. The eastern bridge, known as “Te Horo Beach No.1” was built in 1961 and not scheduled for replacement until 2037.
- 4 A safety review conducted by Wanty Transportation Consultancy in November 2014 found that there were no recorded crashes at either bridge and the only safety issue was vegetation obscuring visibility at each bridge. Trimming and spraying of the berms has been undertaken but part of the issue is the river corridor is under the control of the Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) and they are not keeping the vegetation sufficiently under control.
- 5 Currently, westbound traffic has priority over both bridges with eastbound traffic giving way. At the bridge adjacent to 157 Te Horo Beach Road, the waiting traffic is held on a Give Way line outside the entrances to 166/168 Te Horo Beach Road. From this point, the view ahead is obscured by vegetation in the river bed, property fence lines, and tree planting within the private property.

ISSUES AND OPTIONS

Issues

- 6 Keeping the vegetation in the road reserve under control is problematic with a wide, rough, rural berm that entails the use of a long reach mower. GWRC have

limited resources to control the Blackberry and Willow in the river corridor and the adjoining property owners are reluctant to remove fences and trees which are within their land.

Options

- 7 One option is to get the residents' permission to relocate the boundary fence to provide a clearer view across the bend in the road. But this would also entail changing the wooden fencing alongside the bridge plus additional on-going mowing and vegetation control.
- 8 The Council's Roading staff have looked at the site and prefer a relatively simple option to improve visibility by reversing the priority over the one-way bridge. This would move the Give Way line to the east of the bridge which would have the effect of giving the waiting traffic a clearer view of oncoming traffic. The east bound traffic which currently has difficulty seeing past the bridge would now have the right-of-way. This would only entail changing some line marking and moving the signs. Plus some additional warning signs to indicate "New Road Layout" ahead.

CONSIDERATIONS

Policy considerations

- 9 There are no policy implications in relation to the recommendation.

Legal considerations

- 10 There are no legal considerations other than ensuring any new signs or road-markings are manufactured and installed in accordance with New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) guidelines and regulations.

Financial considerations

- 11 The cost of the proposed line marking and signage works can be accommodated in the 2015/2016 maintenance and Minor Safety Improvement budgets.

Tāngata whenua considerations

- 12 There are no issues relating to Tangata Whenua for consideration.

SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT

Degree of significance

- 13 This matter has a low level of significance under Council policy.

Consultation already undertaken

- 14 No external consultation has been undertaken. This is a road safety and traffic management issue with no material impact upon any adjoining landowner.

Engagement planning

- 15 An engagement plan is not needed to implement this decision.

Publicity

- 16 A communications plan and media release will be developed to inform local residents and road users of the changes.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 17 That the Ōtaki Community Board approves the change of Priority on the one-way bridge at 157 Te Horo Beach Road from westbound to eastbound.

Report prepared by **Approved for submission** **Approved for submission**

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ATTACHMENTS

Appendix 1 Plan 1 Current Situation

Appendix 2 Plan 2 Proposed Changes