

Response to the Logan Street, Dargaville, speed restrictions petition

Meeting: Kaipara District Council
Date of meeting: 26 February 2020
Reporting officer: Victor Devyatov, Intermediate Road Safety and Traffic Engineer, Northland Transportation Alliance

Purpose/Ngā whāinga

To address concerns raised by the Logan Street, Dargaville, speed restrictions petition.

Executive summary/Whakarāpopototanga

The Logan Street petition was received in October 2019 and was presented to Council (item 2.4 in this agenda). The petition requests Council to address perceived speeding and noise issues on Logan Street, Dargaville.

Kaipara District Council, as a Road Controlling Authority (RCA), will review the speed limits in Dargaville in late 2020. This review will take into consideration this petition.

Staff will also raise the concerns Logan Street residents have regarding the Heavy Vehicle Bypass route with the Northland Freight Group at its next meeting.

Recommendation/Ngā tūhunga

That the Kaipara District Council:

- a) Delegates the Chief Executive to take the Logan Street petition into consideration in the speed limits review of Dargaville Township in late 2020.
- b) Delegates to the Chief Executive to raise the Logan Street petitioners' concerns regarding the Heavy Vehicle Bypass route with the Northland Freight Group at its next meeting.

During the last three years, there were five community requests lodged relating to speed issues and truck noise on Logan Street.

The community have now lodged this petition to Kaipara District Council (Council), requesting the following:

- To reduce the posted speed limit to 30 kilometres per hour along Logan Street, Dargaville; and/or
- To re-route heavy traffic in some form of a by-pass.

Discussion/Ngā kōrerorero

Speed Limit Review

The Northland Transport Alliance (NTA), on behalf of the local councils of Northland, are reviewing all local road speed limits throughout Northland. This is part of a nationwide rolling review in response to changes in the Setting of Speed Limit Rule 2017.

Council plans to review the speed limits in the Poutu Peninsula, West Coast and Kai Iwi Lakes areas later this calendar year. It is likely that the Dargaville Urban Area will be included as part of this review. This petition will be included in the consultation.

Heavy Vehicle Bypass Route

It is understood that in the late 1990's some of the true right bank of the Wairoa River collapsed, resulting in a section of River Road being permanently closed. As a result of the closure, the heavy vehicles were redirected through Logan Street, creating a Heavy Vehicle Bypass.

Residents have raised concerns at the disturbance they incur from heavy traffic (in particular) using Logan Street, and request Council to consider options to re-route the Heavy Vehicle Bypass.

Colville Road is the only viable alternative for heavy vehicles, this section of Colville Road generally only serves residential properties. Logan Street serves a mix of residential, light industrial and heavy industrial. Moving the heavy vehicles from one street to another parallel street will only change which residents are affected, with no net reduction in impact. For these reasons, it is not desirable to redirect heavy traffic onto Colville Road.

Staff recommend maintaining the existing Heavy Vehicle Bypass route and raise the concerns Logan Street residents' have with the Northland Freight Group at their next committee meeting.

Policy and planning implications

This petition adds valuable local knowledge for the impending speed limit review of this area.

Financial implications

None.

Risks and mitigations

Existing residents will continue to be impacted by the Heavy Vehicle Bypass Route, although the speed limit review may result in a speed reduction which would reduce the level of noise.

Significance and engagement/Hirahira me ngā whakapāpā

The decisions or matters of this report do not trigger the significance criteria outlined in Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, and the public will be informed via agenda on the website, and response to the petitioners by way of letter through their appointed spokesperson.

Next steps/E whaiake nei

Staff will:

- Continue with planned speed limit review of Dargaville in late 2020.
- Raise the concerns Logan Street residents' have regarding the Heavy Haulage route with the Northland Freight Group at their next committee meeting.