

Submission on New Zealand Transport Agency SH60 Three Brothers to Maisey Road and Connecting Roads

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For more information please contact:

Jane Murray

NMH Public Health Service

Email: jane.murray@nmdhb.govt.nz

Phone: (03) 543 7805

Introduction

- Nelson Marlborough Health (Nelson Marlborough District Health Board) (NMH) is a key organisation involved in the health and wellbeing of the people within Te Tau Ihu. NMH appreciates the opportunity to comment from a public health perspective on the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) SH60 Three Brothers to Maisey Road and Connecting Roads
- NMH makes this submission in recognition of its responsibilities to improve, promote and protect the health of people and communities under the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000 and the Health Act 1956.

General support

- 3. NMH strongly supports NZTA's goal of improving safety on State Highway 60 and connecting roads. NMH is certainly aware of the safety issues along this road which were heightened by the number of deaths and serious injuries earlier this year.
- 4. Speed affects the likelihood and impact of all crashes. Small reductions in impact speeds greatly increase the chances of surviving a crash. The Ministry of Transport's Safer Journey report¹ states that there is a 10% probability of death for car drivers in frontal impact collisions travelling at 70km limit compared with 30% probability for car drivers travelling at 95km/h and 50% probability for drivers travelling at 105 km/h. NMH is supportive of the objectives of the Ministry of Transport's Safer Journey Strategy to improve the roads so that each type of road has recognisable and distinctive set of self-explaining features such as signage, lane width, road markings and speed limits. This will encourage people to travel at speeds that best fit the design and function of the road.²
- 5. NMH supports the proposed speed reductions indicated in the consultation document. These reductions also reflect community views that were expressed during the Tasman District Council's Regional Transport Plan consultation that the people wanted the roads made safer in this areas and that speed reductions were the most favoured option.
- 6. NMH encourages NZTA and TDC to work together with the local community to identify specific intersections that are considered hazardous and consider what other treatments, such as turning lanes, are appropriate in terms of reducing the risk of accidents.

¹ http://www.saferjourneys.govt.nz/assets/Safer-journeys-files/SaferJourneyStrategy.pdf page 19

² Ibid page 14

Conclusion

- 7. NMH strongly supports NZTA's goal of improving safety on State Highway 60 between Blenheim and Nelson and thanks NZTA for the opportunity to comment.
- 8. NMH would like to be heard at the hearing.

Yours sincerely

Peter Bramley

Chief Executive

Peter.Bramley@nmdhb.govt.nz