STAFF REPORT

TO:	Golden Bay Community Board
FROM:	Manager: Service Centres
REFERENCE:	E855
DATE:	April 04, 2005
SUBJECT:	Sh60, Commercial Street Takaka: Heavy Traffic Bypass

A letter has been written to the Area Manager (Ms S Henwood) of the Road Transport Association (RTA), and subsequently she has rung to discuss the letter.

During our conversation clarification was sought by the RTA regarding concerns raised by the GB Community Board and Mainstreet over heavy vehicles traveling through Commercial Street and the need for a bypass.

Ms Henwood advised she forwarded copies of my letter to Solly's, TNL and Fonterra (the three main trucking firms in the Bay) for their consideration and feedback. Subsequent to this, she phoned each for their comments.

From what I understand, each of the companies will advise their drivers of the concerns and ask that efforts are made to avoid Commercial Street. However, this should not be considered a long term fix to the issue.

During Ms Henwood's discussions with the trucking companies, points of concern were raised regarding the state of Motupipi Street, difficulties getting in and out of ITM, and the use of the Meihana Street intersection, from a safety point of view, with the number of the children in this area before and after school.

Ms Henwood and I have agreed it may be beneficial if representatives from the three main trucking companies meet with representatives from the Board to discuss longer term future planning and proposals, which could be presented to Council and Transit NZ.

Ms Henwood has been asked to put the issues raised during our discussion into a formal letter which I can put to the Board for consideration and a recommendation for the next steps forward.

Darla Blake-Gillard