

STAFF REPORT

TO: Motueka Community Board
FROM: Road Safety Co-Ordinator
REFERENCE: E859
DATE: 19 June 2006
SUBJECT: Road Safety Co-Ordinator's Report

1. PURPOSE

To update the community board on work carried out by the Road Safety Coordinator (RSC), including the delivery of activities under the Community Road Safety Programme for 2005/06. To advise on planned road safety events for 2006/7 financial year.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Road Safety at TDC

As well as providing one point of contact for road safety matters at council, Road Safety Coordination is funded via Land Transport NZ's Community Road Safety Programme (CRSP) for community based projects dealing with road safety issues particular to the local area. Many involve working alongside other road safety partners such as police, schools, community groups, other councils/RCAs, ACC and health promotion. A summary of recent and upcoming projects is given below.

LTSA's merge with Transfund to form Land Transport NZ results in a broadening of road safety coordination to embrace their objectives of "contributing to an integrated, safe, responsive and sustainable land transport system". Most of these goals are already present in many council documents such as the LTCCP, Regional Land Transport Strategy etc.

2.2 Local Road Safety Issues: Tasman District

Overview of Crash Statistics 2000-2004:

Tasman District: Urban & Rural								
Crash Type	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Total	% of overall injury crashes	Group D* %
Fatal	4	8	6	7	6	31	5	8
Serious	36	37	36	39	29	177	31	26
Minor	65	59	83	92	79	378	64	67
Total injury crashes	105	104	125	138	114	586	100	100
Non injury crashes	190	191	194	246	235	1056		

* Group D = Similar Authorities: Peer group where figures represent averages from 22 districts similar to Tasman

The national issues identified by Land Transport NZ are speed, alcohol, failure to give way and restraints. While these factors are present in our local crash statistics, they are not as high as they might be in other parts of the country. Every year Land Transport NZ produces road safety issues reports which give a profile of the *local* road safety issues. For 2005, these are:

- Cyclists
- Motorcyclists
- Loss of control on bends *
- Intersections

**Note loss of control often includes other contributing factors such as fatigue, alcohol, speed (or all 3).*

Funding for projects is largely determined by local road safety issues as mentioned above. However they are also directed by national issues, feedback from other road safety partners and anecdotal information. A summary of current projects and upcoming ones for the next financial year are given below.

3 ROAD SAFETY CO-ORDINATOR'S ACTIVITIES 2005/06: SOME HIGHLIGHTS

Project Name	Description
Bikewise Week:	<p>Week involves promotion of cycling (to promote sustainable transport) and cycle safety.</p> <p>Motueka Community Board members biked to their board meeting one evening during bikewise week – thanks to Bob Askew for coordinating this and for board members/councillors who supported it.</p> <p>Mayor Hurley and Cr Wilkins helped promote Family Fun Ride event in Richmond by leading the community ride on a novelty “quad bike”.</p> <p>Councillors and TDC staff supported the week in taking part in the Bikewise Business Battle, thanks to Motueka Service Centre for getting in behind the cause.</p>
Stopping Distances Project	<p>Demonstrations were held outside 10 school to show it takes <i>twice as long</i> for a car to stop at 60 km/h (instead of 50) making it much more likely to cause injury/death. Thanks to all TDC staff and councillors who came to witness and support the event.</p>
Motorcycle Training weekends	<p>Historically motorcycle crash rates have been high in the Tasman District. A ‘defensive riding’ course was held and received overwhelmingly positive feedback. This highlighted need for further work in this area.</p>
Pass Slow and Wide: Vulnerable road users project	<p>Pedestrian and cycle safety are major issues for the Tasman District and our particular roading environment presents a challenge for these road users. Often there is little or no shoulder available; there is a varied of traffic mix (including heavy traffic) and often an open road environment resulting in higher speeds. Identified two areas in greater Motueka area – Upper Moutere and Riwaka (Lodder Lane). Both involved cyclists, families and young children. Drivers often need to overtake as if they were passing another vehicle, rather than ‘squeezing past’, assuming there is enough room.</p>
“Who’s’ Behind you”: Driveway Safety	<p>This is a national issue that appears in local media periodically and carries a local risk due to shared driveways and increased subdivision activity. Mock corflute road signs have been distributed to child care centres, schools, and some supermarkets, along with an explanatory postcard in region. Te Awhina Marae warmly received this project and will use these in their area outside Kohanga Reo.</p>
“Push not Pedal on the Path” Cyclists on Footpaths	<p>This was a joint initiative with Golden Bay Community Board who received complaints of pedestrians feeling unsafe (and in one case injured) in downtown Takaka because of people riding bikes on the footpath. Local artist created a postcard design that became a colouring competition open to all primary schools. The colours of the winning entry to be used in final postcard version. If successful and needed, could be used in other areas.</p>

Visibility Campaign: Cycle Safety	<p>Targeting un-lit cyclists at dawn and dusk with high viz gear/lights as incentives and supported by print and radio media. Volunteers will be out on High St Motueka to promote this.</p> <p>Targeting drivers to “look twice think bike” before opening the car door, turning at intersections, reversing (these movements based on 0800 Cycle Crash data highlighting most common issues).</p>
Intersection Safety	<p>“Spotters” used to target drivers who blatantly run red lights/stop signs. Letter sent to drivers with aim of educating prior to police enforcement to be carried out 2 weeks later. Three areas in Motueka targeted. This may not be very popular with public, but intersections is a major concern for Nelson and Tasman and any discussion around our campaign can only be a good thing.</p> <p>Media campaign profiling local black spot intersections (including High St & Pah St), general road code info, and road code quiz to encourage participation to be distributed in June.</p>

4 ROAD SAFETY CO-ORDINATOR’S ACTIVITIES 2006/07:

Project Name	Description
Youth Drive Sober	<p>Targeting young drivers at risk of drinking and driving. Facilitator will be young person who will implement programme in schools. Gives an opportunity for young people to <i>experience</i> how drinking can impair judgement while demonstrating to others the risk they would take if they ended up as a passenger in their vehicle. Project will highlight impairment caused by <u>all</u> drugs - not just alcohol. To be available to all high schools in district.</p>
Roadside Road Safety Education	<p>Working with other councils/Transit NZ on project which will install billboards in key areas profiling local problems such as ‘Keep Left’ (aimed at tourists), following distances, speed, reminders of being in a ‘high crash rate area’, winter conditions, fatigue etc.</p>
Pedestrian Safety	<p>“Walking Wednesdays” project to be offered to all Tasman District Schools. Involves children walking to school (or part way to school) over 2 terms encouraged by class and school competitions and rewards. Some schools have a high number of students that use bus transport and may not be interested in taking part. However the project is designed for any school that has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • congestion at school gate and want longer term solutions; • suppressed or current demand for children to walk/cycle to school; • desire to increase activity and impact on health issues such as diabetes, obesity; • want to encourage or establish walking school buses. <p>Expect this project to be very active in Motueka as there are a number of schools where children live nearby and schools who struggle with congestion issues.</p>

<p>OTHER PROGRAMMES:</p> <p>Safe with Age:</p> <p>Child Restraints Programme</p> <p>Re-cycling Programme</p> <p>Drivetime</p>	<p>Older Driver Refresher Course will continue for next financial year in Motueka via Maiawhitia Whanau Trust. TDC will continue to promote this and coordinate participants on the course so we can monitor interest.</p> <p>Targeting children and their parents at early childhood centres/kindergartens – all centres in Motueka will be offered a visit.</p> <p>To be promoted later this year, targeting adults who are ‘re-discovering’ cycling. There are high cycle counts for Motueka and believe this will be a worthwhile service for the area. Number of courses will be based on demand. Course covers practical skills as well as basic bike maintenance.</p> <p>This was a success this year and this will be offered again early next year for young drivers and their coaches. Provides practical tips and support when learning to drive and with negotiating the graduated driver license system.</p>
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5 OTHER ACTIVITIES 06/07:

- To be rolled over from 05/06: Intersections, cycle safety, motorcycle training, driver revival campaigns.
- Promoting and supporting walking school bus programmes.
- Continuation of 0800 Cycle Crash Facility – this is providing valuable data to help direct engineering enforcement and educational resources.

Kirsty Barr
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