



Media Release  
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## **Safer Speed for Shands Road introduced**

A reduced speed limit has been introduced on part of Shands Road and in the intersections connecting with the road in order to improve the safety of this area for motorists and other road users.

A new 80 kilometre per hour speed limit applies on Shands Road from south of Trents Road to Sir James Wattie Drive north of Marshs Road. The same 80 kilometre per hour speed limit also applies on Trents Road, Blakes Road and Marshs Road to east and west of the intersections with Shands Road. Signage will be installed within the next week to mark the areas where the new speed limits begin.

The Council's Asset Manager Transportation, Andrew Mazey says that with the opening of the first stage of the new Christchurch Southern Motorway late last year, traffic volumes along Shands Road in the Prebbleton area have increased by 35%.

"There have been a number of crashes along Shands Road and the intersections with this road south of Christchurch. Many crashes have been due to people failing to stop at controlled intersections along this busy arterial route. Reducing the speed limit in this area will allow motorists more time to stop or slow down for other drivers if required and should help to improve the safety of these roads."

Police also support the reduction of speed on Shands Road. "About half of Canterbury's crashes every year are at intersections and predominantly involve drivers approaching intersections too fast," says Inspector Al Stewart. "This reduction in speed will increase the safety of all road users in the area."

Intersection upgrades along Shands Road were undertaken by both the Selwyn District and Christchurch City Councils in 2003 and 2004. Further major roading and intersection improvements are planned as part of stage two of the Christchurch Southern Motorway project. Construction of stage two of the project is expected to start in 2015/16 by the New Zealand Transport Agency.

Selwyn District Council carried out a road safety campaign in conjunction with the Police this year which highlighted the importance of stopping at intersections.

Canterbury Police will be monitoring this area to ensure motorists are complying with the new speed limits.

Ends

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