

**From:** [Official Information](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [Official Information](#)  
**Subject:** Final response - LGOIMA 402328 - [REDACTED] - cost of replacing street signs  
**Date:** Monday, 27 May 2024 5:28:02 pm  
**Attachments:** [image005.png](#)  
[image006.jpg](#)  
[image007.jpg](#)  
[image008.gif](#)  
[image009.gif](#)  
[image010.gif](#)  
[image011.jpg](#)

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Kia ora,

We refer to your information request below. Hamilton City Council provides the following response.

**Your request:**

*ok i will have to talk to the lawyer about this is the council seems to be spending a lot of money on things that don't need to be done, another thing that was brought to my attention you said many people in this area approved of the speed reduction, we did a leaflet drop to every house in Helena road and Liston crescent asking them to come to a meeting if they wanted there say about the proposed speed reduction we had 48 houses present and no one at the meeting supported the speed reduction i dont know where you are getting your facts from. There are some people who don't like to do things through the proper channels like me and you talk about costs how much will it cost to replace the signs on a regular basis as i have been told that there are some in the area who are prepared to vandalise the signs on a regular basis which i believe will cost you more than the larger sign*

**Our response:**

This information was supplied in the previous emails. The cost of replacing a new electronic variable sign is \$10,000. This is how much it would cost anytime that there was one damaged and then replaced. If a sign was graffitied, we can simply clean it but if it is damaged significantly then we are required to replace the whole sign.

If you do see a sign that is damaged or graffitied, please call us on 07 838 6699 or email us at [info@hcc.govt.nz](mailto:info@hcc.govt.nz) or using our Antenno app.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

**Ngaa mihi**  
**Keeley Faulkner**  
**Official Information Coordinator**

Legal services  
Governance & Assurance Team | Business Services  
Email: [officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz](mailto:officialinformation@hcc.govt.nz)



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*I support flexibility at work. While it suits me to send this email now, I don't expect a response outside of your own working hours.*

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 17, 2024 4:43 AM  
**To:** Transport <[Transport@hcc.govt.nz](mailto:Transport@hcc.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** Re: 396833 - Response to Transport - General Enquiry

ok i will have to talk to the lawyer about this is the council seems to be spending a lot of money on things that don't need to be done, another thing that was brought to my attention you said many people in this area approved of the speed reduction, we did a leaflet drop to every house in Helena road and Liston crescent asking them to come to a meeting if they wanted there say about the proposed speed reduction we had 48 houses present and no one at the meeting supported the speed reduction i dont know where you are getting your facts from.

There are some people who don't like to do things through the proper channels like me and you talk about costs how much will it cost to replace the signs on a regular basis as i have been told that there are some in the area who are prepared to vandalise the signs on a regular basis which i believe will cost you more than the larger sign

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**From:** Transport <[Transport@hcc.govt.nz](mailto:Transport@hcc.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 16 May 2024 9:49 am  
**To:** [graeme-p@outlook.com](mailto:graeme-p@outlook.com) <[graeme-p@outlook.com](mailto:graeme-p@outlook.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: 396833 - Response to Transport - General Enquiry

Kia ora [REDACTED]

The team have advised that the static variable signs you mentioned are a lot more expensive than the permanent 30 signs because of their size. As the static variable sign are so much larger the sign is more expensive, a larger sign requires a much bigger pole both in length and diameter. The concrete base is also bigger to prevent the sign from blowing over in strong winds. Due to these factors there is quite a difference in cost between the two signs and this is another reason why we have gone with the permanent 30 signs on Helena Road.

Ngā mihi

**City Transportation Technical Support Team**



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**From:** Transport

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 2:31 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** 396833 - Response to Transport - General Enquiry

**Kia ora** [REDACTED]

I just wanted to provide you with a response to your enquiry about **why the permanent 30km/hr Safer Schools speed limit was applied in Helena Road and not Knighton Road.**

The team have investigated your enquiry and have provided the following response:

There are a couple of factors as to why a permanent speed limit has been put in place in Helena Road and not a variable speed limit:

- The cost to install new electronic variable signs is \$10,000 per sign. If a variable speed limit was applied on Helena Road, two electronic signs would be required (totalling \$20,000), with this expenditure not considered as being justified for this location.
- Busier roads with high traffic volumes and key routes needed to be prioritised for the electronic variable signs, to help keep freight and people moving along these roads. With Helena Road being a low volume residential road, it was considered as suitable for the permanent 30km/h speed limit.

While we acknowledge that you may not have supported the proposed change in speed limit on Helena Road, during our consultation about our proposed speed limits around schools we received feedback that others on were happy and supported the permanent 30km/h speed limit on this street.

Regarding Knighton Road, the section of road outside Knighton Normal School does have a variable speed limit and operates as 30km/h during school times. Because Knighton Road has a high traffic volume, it was determined that the variable speed limit was more appropriate in this location than a permanent speed limit. A variable 40km/h speed limit had been in place in this location previously, so the existing electronic variable signage was able to be used for the recent speed limit change (with only a small cost required to update the background electronics to read "30" instead of "40").

The section of Hillcrest Road from Silverdale Road to Edinburgh Road, capturing both Waikato University and St Johns College, has also reduced to 30km/h. The Waikato University campus straddles Hillcrest Road and the lower 30km/h limit was installed a couple of years ago to reflect the high pedestrian numbers moving through this area. This limit has been extended to keep a consistent speed limit throughout Hillcrest Road and avoid chopping and changing speed limits in this short length of road to avoid confusion for drivers.

While our current programme has focused on primary, intermediate, and secondary schools, in the future we intend to look at whether a lower speed limit is needed in Knighton Road in the vicinity of the University. We hope that this provides you with the information you require, but please do not hesitate to contact us again if there is additional detail you would like to have.

Thanks again for contacting Hamilton City Council with your request. Have a lovely day.

Ngā mihi

**City Transportation Technical Support Team**



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**From:** Transport

**Sent:** Friday, April 26, 2024 12:27 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** 396833 - Acknowledgement of Transport - General Enquiry

**Kia ora** [REDACTED]

Thank you for contacting Hamilton City Council with your **enquiry about why the permanent 30km/hr Safer Schools speed limit was applied in Helena Road and not Knighton Road.**

Our team are currently reviewing your feedback and we will be back to you with a response within 10 working days. Should you require any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me referencing your job number **396833**.

Ngā mihi

**City Transportation Technical Support Team**



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