

Transportation Conference 2006

“Evaluating the effectiveness of traffic calming devices in reducing speeds on ‘local’ urban roads in New Zealand”



Remit Background

- *2004 - Austroads Part 10 re-issued:*
 - Lack of information on device crossing speeds
- *2004 – LTSA RSS 21 Survey recommendations:*
 - Develop guidelines
 - Assess impacts
 - Case studies should illustrate the overall effects
- *2006 Masters research project completed*
 - Thankyou to all who assisted
 - Available on CD

Research Project – General Conclusions

- General lack of evaluation
 - Strong evidence of effectiveness in reducing speed:
 - Raised tables/ 75mm high circular humps
 - Road cushions
 - Slow points
 - Perimeter thresholds
 - Limited evidence of effectiveness in reducing speed:
 - Centre blister
 - Kerb extensions
 - Parking
 - Midblock median
- Need to understand how devices work & effects

Research Project – Literature Review Findings

- Minimal research/ limited information re the effects of devices in NZ
- Speed/ spacing tables exist - some devices
- Max height of devices should not exceed 75mm
- Devices can be constructed on grades, up to 10%
- Plateau length cater for design vehicle
- Good websites exist overseas, e.g. ITE



Research Project - Case Study Findings

- Staff turnover – warrants design guide
- All sites could have been improved, e.g:
 - Too high, Ramps too steep, Insufficient deflection
- Carriageway narrowing/ Lane reduction
 - No speed reduction
 - Other benefits, crash reduction
- Limited monitoring undertaken
- Devices being installed on arterials



Further Study Recommendations

- Monitoring – standard form, over 3 years
- Focus on devices that reduce speed/ in common use
- Set up 'traffic calming' website, LTNZ in process of implementing this
- Update and maintain key contacts in RCA's
- Liaise with Austroads and ARRB
- Investigate key issues, eg humps on grades
- Assistance with funding monitoring required



Any Comments?

Does the Transportation Group support the study recommendations?



Contact Details:
rminnema@dcc.govt.nz, ph 03 474-3706