

Raised safety platforms The little upgrade that's saving lives

The number and severity of crashes in Hamilton has dropped significantly in places where we have installed raised safety platforms.

How do raised safety platforms save lives?

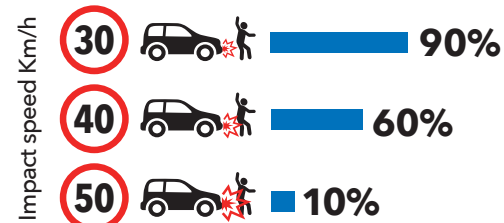
A raised safety platform is a flat topped speed hump. It's designed to slow vehicle speeds just enough so that when people make mistakes they have time to react and avoid a crash.

If a crash does happen, the human body has much better chance of surviving the impact at a slower speed.

Why does speed matter so much?

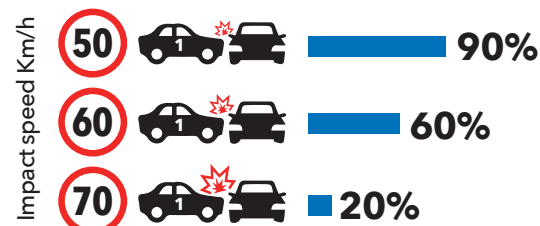
The severity of injuries resulting from a crash is directly related to the pre-crash speed of the vehicle whether or not speed caused the crash.

Chances of surviving a car impact



*Based on adult pedestrians.
Risks are higher for children and elderly.*

Chances of surviving a side-on crash



Based on vehicle 1's speed

Four raised safety platform examples

Intersection			
Thomas/ Gordonton	Grey/ Te Aroha	Bryce/ Anglesea	Bankwood/ Comries
What was installed			
Signals and raised safety platforms on the Gordonton Road approaches	Raised safety platforms across the individual approaches/departures	Raised the whole intersection	Roundabout with raised safety platforms across the four individual approaches/departures
Date of installation			
April 2019	August 2019	February 2020	October 2020
Number and severity of crashes in the previous 5 years			
1 fatal 4 serious 15 minor injury 23 non injury	1 serious 8 minor injury 14 non injury	1 serious 4 minor injury 16 non injury	2 serious 7 minor injury 10 non injury
Number and severity of crashes since installation			
1 non injury	2 minor injury 4 non injury	2 minor injury 6 non injury	2 non injury

Every change we make on Hamilton streets is designed so that you and your loved ones can always get home safely.

How much do raised safety platforms slow me down?

Raised safety platforms are designed to slow vehicles to a speed that is safe for the situation. This is usually 30km/h where there are pedestrians, or 50km/h where there are no pedestrians. Each platform is carefully designed for its specific location.

It doesn't cost anything to lower your speed for a moment, but every injury has wider costs and flow-on effects for families, employers, communities and our health system.

But what about congestion?

Congestion is the result of more people living and driving in a growing city. We would see current levels of congestion growing with or without raised safety platforms.

Why should I slow down if there's no one on the platform?

Not every crash involves pedestrians. The raised safety platform is for your safety too.

The first raised safety platforms were installed in Hamilton in 2019 so we've had plenty of time to measure their effectiveness. We know they work.