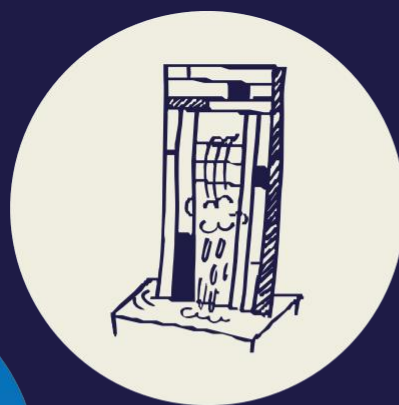


HAMILTON CITY COUNCIL SUBMISSION ON:

Land Transport Rule: Traffic Control Devices (Kura/School Signs) Amendment 2021 (Proposed Rule)

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency



17 December 2021



**Hamilton
City Council**
Te kaunihera o Kirikiriroa

Improving the Wellbeing of Hamiltonians

Hamilton City Council is focused on improving the wellbeing of Hamiltonians through delivering to our five priorities of shaping:

- A city that's easy to live in
- A city where our people thrive
- A central city where our people love to be
- A fun city with lots to do
- A green city

The topic of this submission is aligned to our '**A city where our people thrive**' priority.

As a city we want to have safe routes for people to move around our city, alongside efficient transport connections to connect Hamilton to other places.

Council Approval and Reference

This submission was approved (under delegated authority) by the Deputy Chair of Hamilton City Council's Infrastructure Operations Committee (as resolved at the 7 December 2021 Infrastructure Operations Committee meeting).

Hamilton City Council Reference D-4006508 - submission # 674.

Key Messages

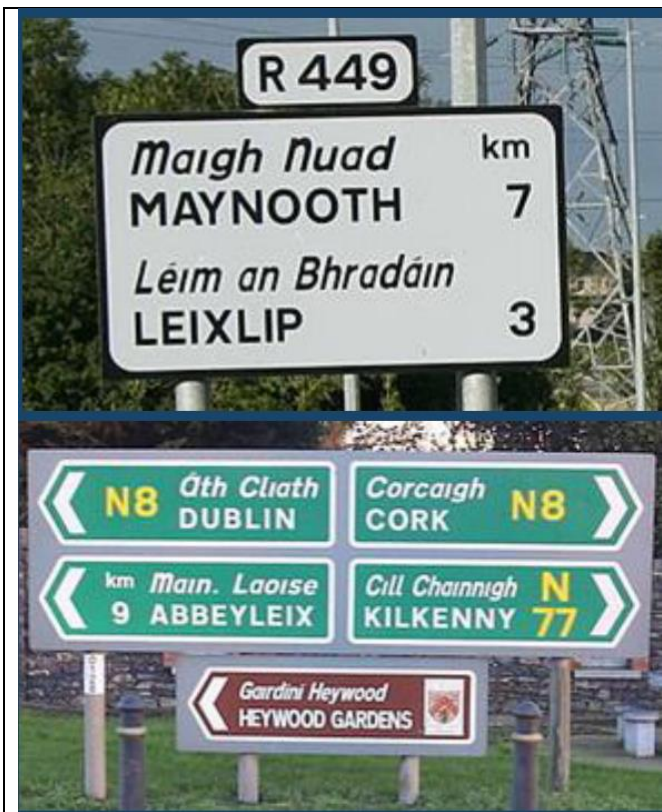
1. Hamilton City Council is generally supportive of the proposed development of a bi-lingual sign for Kura/School signs.
2. However, we do have a number of recommendations and comments for improvement, which are outlined below.

Introduction and Specific Comments

3. Hamilton City Council would like to thank Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency (Waka Kotahi) for the opportunity to make a submission to **the Land Transport Rule: Traffic Control Devices (Kura/School Signs) Amendment 2021**.
4. Hamilton City Council is generally supportive of the proposed development of a bi-lingual sign for Kura/School signs.
5. Hamilton City Council is currently working through the review of our current Naming of Roads, Open Spaces and Council Facilities Policy to ensure it meets Council's strategic objectives:
 - i. The Long Term Plan, *Our Vision for Hamilton Kirikiriroa*: a focus on wellbeing and creating a sense of 'place' and community identity;
 - ii. *Hamilton Heritage Plan*: an overall intent to celebrate Hamilton's heritage in all its forms;
 - iii. *He Pou Manawa Ora: Pillars of Wellbeing Strategy*: The pou (pillar) manawa korero includes an outcome of 'Te reo Maaori is seen, heard and celebrated throughout the city' and a monitoring measure: the "percentage of new streets that have te reo Maaori names".
6. Public consultation on the refreshed policy has been completed and it is expected that a decision will be made in early 2022, including process guidance relating to the bi-lingual naming and re-naming of open spaces and facilities.
7. Hamilton City Council would therefore appreciate the opportunity to comment on any further bi-lingual signage proposals being considered by Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency in the future so that we are able to reflect the outcome of this policy review.
8. Hamilton City Council has considered the specific questions posed in the consultation documents and has provided its comments and recommendations on this below.

Feedback/Recommendations on Consultation Questions

9. **Do you have any feedback on the proposed design of the new Kura School traffic sign?**
10. Hamilton City Council agree with the idea of including Te Reo on this signage but recommend that it be in Title Case (rather than CAPITALS) as is illustrated in the examples within the consultation document (and below). We believe this will better facilitate future expansion of Te Reo across other road signs in a consistent manner.



Hamilton City Council agrees with the idea of including Te Reo on this signage but recommend that it be in the Title Case (rather than CAPITALS) as is illustrated in the examples within the consultation document (and to the left). We believe this will better facilitate future expansion of Te Reo across other road signs in a consistent manner.

11. **Do you have any feedback on the use of italics or bold to differentiate Te Reo Māori from English?**
12. Hamilton City Council recommend that italics (Title Case) is the better way to highlight the Te Reo section of the sign - bold is just too similar and/or there is also the risk of the bold text being too visually overpowering/distracting. It also reflects the approach being used elsewhere in the world for bi-lingual signage.
13. **In your opinion, which of the two options (italic or bold) seems clearer to read and quicker to understand?**
14. Hamilton City Council considers that italics is the easiest way to differentiate between Te Reo and English but recommend that Te Reo be in Title Case as this style is easier to read and as the Te Reo words are (at the moment) less recognised, they should be in the easiest format to read by the public.
15. **What benefits or impacts would these changes have on you or your organisation?**
16. These signs will have both benefits and impacts.
17. They would benefit/support our kaupapa maori schools and would be a good starting point to introducing bi-lingual signage into the transport system.
18. The implementation of the changes has potential for requiring significant time and resource if all of these signs have to be changed immediately. We may also have to adjust the height of some of this signage when they are beside footpaths, and this will add additional costs. This would take resource away from other projects.
19. The impact of changing these signs would be reduced if we could change them as the existing signs reach the end of their serviceable life or in conjunction with new installations/capital improvement programmes.
20. **Do you support our proposed approach to align the timing of the Kura School sign with the proposed Speed Rule changes?**

21. Yes, as this reduces the potential to changes signs again in the future.
22. **Do you have any feedback on the proposed design of the new permanent Kura School speed traffic sign?**
23. Yes, we would prefer to see the word Kura in Italic Title Case.
24. **Do you have any feedback on the proposed removal of “School Zone” from existing traffic signs?**
25. No, we agree with the changes.
26. **Do you have any feedback on the proposed changes to the two existing school variable speed limit signs?**
27. Hamilton City Council supports the changes.
28. **Do you have any feedback on the Kura School supplementary plate being used in conjunction with the two pedestrian crossing and children warning signs used for schools?**
29. Hamilton City Council supports the use of the Kura School supplementary plate for all signage associated with schools.
30. **Do you have any feedback on the proposed removal of the three warning signs?**
31. Hamilton City Council supports the removal of the 3 warning signs, in particular the School Zone Ends signage, assuming that there will still be the requirement to retain the speed limit change sign at this location.
32. **Do you have any feedback on the removal of the school zone option for the symbolic warning - active flashing light sign?**
33. Hamilton City Council supports the removal.
34. **Do you have any feedback on the other minor or consequential changes proposed for the TCD Rule?**
35. Hamilton City Council has no specific feedback of the consequential changes to the TCD Rule.

Further Information and Opportunity to Discuss Our Submission

36. Should Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency require clarification of the submission from Hamilton City Council, or additional information, please contact **Robyn Denton** (Acting City Transportation Unit Manager) on 07 838 6910 or 021 971 127, email robyn.denton@hcc.govt.nz in the first instance.
37. Hamilton City Council would welcome the opportunity to discuss the content of our submission with Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency in more detail.

Yours faithfully



Lance Vervoort
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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