

From: noreply@gurudigital.nz
Sent: Monday, 26 January 2026 3:51 pm
To: haveyoursay
Subject: Submission - Oparure Road Speed Limit Change

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Thank you for your feedback

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Do you agree with our proposal to change the existing 80km/h speed limit on a section of Oparure Road to 50km/h permanently?

Yes

Other comments

Yes, I agree with the proposed change.

The proposed 50km/h speed limit applies to a short section of approximately 500 metres on Oparure Road and will have a negligible impact on overall travel times. Any delay for road users would amount to no more than one to two minutes, which is widely accepted as insignificant when weighed against the safety benefits for school children, local residents, and marae patrons who regularly use this area.

The issues affecting this section of road are long-standing and well known to Waitomo District Council. An underlying natural spring has resulted in ongoing surface instability, recurring slips, and the repeated need for levelling and resealing works. Lower vehicle speeds through this section would help reduce further deterioration and lessen the ongoing reliance on short-term remedial “band-aid” repairs that occur almost every year.

This stretch of road is also subject to a high volume of heavy vehicles, including seal trucks servicing nearby mining and quarry operations. These vehicles present an increased safety risk and are a significant contributing factor to ongoing road damage. A reduced speed limit through this short section is a reasonable and proportionate response to these known conditions.

Given the minimal impact on travel time, the question must be asked: is saving a minute or two worth the ongoing safety risks and infrastructure damage? The proposed speed limit reduction is a practical, common-sense measure that reflects the realities of this section of Oparure Road.

Public availability of responses

I wish to speak to Council about my submission

No

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