

**From:** noreply@gurudigital.nz  
**Sent:** Saturday, 28 February 2026 2:50 pm  
**To:** haveyoursay  
**Subject:** Submission - Oparure Road Speed Limit Change

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Thank you for your feedback

**Full Name**

Libby and Pete Chandler

**Organisation**

Spellbound Ltd

**Phone**

[REDACTED]

**Address**

334 Boddies Rd  
Te Kuiti (bus)

[REDACTED]

**Postcode**

3977

**Email**

info@glowworm.co.nz

**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 we do agree that a permanent 50km speed zone is needed for Oparure Rd, we also support the addition of speed calming measures because a long 50km zone is needed for the entire length of Oparure Village.

We are the owners of Spellbound Glowworm and Cave tours. Our customers must use the intersection on Oparure Rd and Boddies Rd to reach our office. We do not know of any recent incidents involving tourists and locals at this intersection.\*\* However we do feel some concern because we know many of our visitors are not accustomed to driving on rural New Zealand roads. They can easily make poor decisions when under stress and they may behave in ways that locals find unpredictable.

There is a complicated mix of very large trucks, tourists, over confident NZ drivers and school bus traffic. All behave differently on the road, some do not respect speed expectations. It becomes more complicated when two rural schools and a Marae are added to the mix.

Much of the heavy traffic traveling through Oparure is noisy and disruptive affecting people's happiness and wellbeing. It can be intimidating for those on foot. Oparure has suffered a large

impact from the increase of traffic over the years and in general people no longer feel safe to walk around their village. Some are hesitant about driving out of their driveways.

We would like to think that a footpath will be planned in the future

For the safety of our customers and the wellbeing of nearby Oparure locals, who we share the road with, please add our voice of support for a change to a 50km zone

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission.

\*\* before we had our visitor base at 334 Boddie Rd we met coaches and transferred passengers at the Boddie Rd junction gravel pit, once a coach driver pulled across to the gravel pit instead of using Boddies Rd and turning right, They inadvertadley and suddenly had a heavy truck coming towards them and I believe it was a near miss. We no longer use the gravel pit to meet busses but we understand the Oparure School bus turns here.

**Public availability of responses**

**I wish to speak to Council about my submission**

Yes

**Security**