

Ordinary Council Meeting - 17 March 2025 -

9.3 - Notice of Motion - Request Main Roads WA Remove Speed Limits

9.3 - Notice of Motion - Request Main Roads WA Remove Speed Limits (SJ4563)	
Elected Member	Councillor Duggin
Disclosure of Officers Interest:	No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has an interest to declare in accordance with the provisions of the <i>Local Government Act 1995</i> .

Notice of Motion

A Notice of Motion was received from Councillor Duggin via email on 24 February 2025.

The Notice of Motion is *“That Council:*

- REQUESTS the Chief Executive Officer write to Main Roads WA to formally request a return to the default (i.e. non-signposted) speed limit the following roads which were recently gazetted/signposted at 50 km/h:*
 - Lightbody Road*
 - Shanley Road*
 - Coogly Road*
 - Feast Road*
 - Summerfield Road*
 - Gull Road*
 - Scrivener Road*
 - Selkirk Road*
 - Jarrahdale Road*
 - Yangedi Road South*
 - Punrak Road*
 - Utley Road*
 - Westcott Road*
 - Henderson Road*
 - Elliott Road*
 - Rapids Road*
 - Hall Road - SLK 0.00 (Summerfield Road) to SLK 1.76 (Karnup Road)*
- REQUESTS the Chief Executive Officer write to Main Roads WA to provide options on suitable traffic signage available for installation in rural areas to remind drivers of the risks associated with driving on rural roads.”*

Contact Us

Enquiries

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In Person

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Open Monday to Friday 8.30am-5pm (closed public holidays)



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Relevant Previous Decisions of Council

Ordinary Council Meeting – 20 June 2022 - OCM140/06/22 - COUNCIL RESOLUTION / Alternative Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- 1. NOTES the formal written response from MRWA received on 16 February 2022, advising that in order to review speed limits for road sections the Shire is to undertake a speed audit of each road/area identified for review, prior to MRWA evaluation of speed limit change requests for each particular road/area.*
- 2. SUPPORTS the allocation of \$40,000 from the 2022/23 Infrastructure Services operating budget, and AUTHORISES for the Chief Executive Officer to engage an external consultant to undertake a review and audit of speed limits on roads identified as having crashes due to speeding, and apply to Main Roads WA for formal review of the speed limit on these roads.*

Ordinary Council Meeting – 15 March 2021 - OCM046/03/21 - COUNCIL RESOLUTION / Councillor Recommendation

That Council:

- 1. REQUESTS the CEO write to Main Roads to formally request a speed audit be conducted on the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale's local road network for both Rural and Urban roads.*
- 2. REQUESTS the CEO bring a report to Council detailing Main Roads' response once received.*

Officer Comment

At the 15 March 2021, Ordinary Council Meeting, the following resolution was made relating to speed limits within the Shire:

That Council:

- 1. REQUESTS the CEO write to Main Roads to formally request a speed audit be conducted on the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale's local road network for both Rural and Urban roads.*
- 2. REQUESTS the CEO bring a report to Council detailing Main Roads' response once received.*

Requests for speed limit reviews have historically occurred by the Shire submitting road review request applications to Main Roads WA (MRWA) on an ad-hoc, road by road basis, generally triggered by land developments and urbanisation in an area. The request noted in the above Council Resolution was put forward to MRWA during a face-to-face meeting where this issue and other speed limit matters in the Shire were discussed.

Further to this meeting and subsequent correspondence, MRWA advised that they do not undertake the function of speed zone audits of this scale for Local Government areas and that the Shire must undertake/seek its own audits on a holistic, area-wide basis to justify speed limit changes based on professional traffic engineering advice, to then submit an application for consideration by MRWA.



At the 20 June 2022 Ordinary Council Meeting, a subsequent resolution was made:

That Council:

1. *NOTES the formal written response from MRWA received on 16 February 2022, advising that in order to review speed limits for road sections the Shire is to undertake a speed audit of each road/area identified for review, prior to MRWA evaluation of speed limit change requests for each particular road/area.*
2. *SUPPORTS the allocation of \$40,000 from the 2022/23 Infrastructure Services operating budget, and AUTHORISES for the Chief Executive Officer to engage an external consultant to undertake a review and audit of speed limits on roads identified as having crashes due to speeding, and apply to Main Roads WA for formal review of the speed limit on these roads.*

The Shire therefore engaged with external traffic engineering consultants and Main Roads WA to review multiple speed zonings of many arterial and local distributor roads throughout the Shire. A key component of these reviews was investigating roads which have historically been subject to a default speed limit (i.e. not a sign-posted limit), with a view towards providing appropriate signposted speed zoning on these roads as traffic growth and urban/regional development continues to grow at pace within the Shire to improve road safety.

After receiving the audit reports and recommendations from the Shire, Main Roads agreed to work with the Shire in implementing formal speed limits in line with the audit recommendations. The resulting speed limit changes are shown in Table 1 below, where a formal signposted limit was agreed upon.

Table 1 – Speed Limit Changes agreed upon with Main Roads

Road	Section	Previous Speed Limit (km/h)	New Gazetted Speed Limit (km/h)
Leipold Road	King Road to Kargotich Road	110	80
Rowe Road	Hopeland Road to Rapids Road	110	90
Rapids Road	Lowlands Road to Karnup Road	110	90
	Karnup Road to Utlely Road	110	50
Gossage Road	King Road to Kargotich Road	110	80
Gossage Road	Kargotich Road to Hopkinson Road	110	70
Lowlands Road	Rapids Road to Wright Road	110	80
Wright Road	From 250m north of Summerfield Road to existing 80 km/h zone south of Summerfield Road	100	80
Hopeland Road	Henderson Road to Lakes Road	110	100
Abernethy Road	Nicholson Road to Kargotich Road	110	90
	Kargotich Road to Hopkinson Road	80	70
Nicholson Road	Thomas Road to Abernethy Road	110	90



Road	Section	Previous Speed Limit (km/h)	New Gazetted Speed Limit (km/h)
Karnup Road	Wellard Street to South Western Highway	70	60
Orton Road	Casuarina Road to 1km east of King Road	90	80
Nettleton Road	Existing 100 km/h sections	100	90
Kingsbury Drive	Existing 90 km/h sections north and south of Serpentine Dam	90	80
Norman Road	Entirety	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	80
Bishop Road	Kargotich Road to existing 80 km/h section	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	80
Jarrahdale Road	Existing 50 km/h zone through Jarrahdale Townsite	50	50 (Reminder/repeater signage to be installed)
	Existing 110 km/h zone East of Jarrahdale	110	90
Doley Road	Orton Road to Abernethy Road	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50 (Reminder/repeater signage to be installed)
Wattle Road	Hall Road to Rapids Road	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50 (Reminder/repeater signage to be installed)
Malarkey Road	Entirety	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50 (Reminder/repeater signage to be installed)



Road	Section	Previous Speed Limit (km/h)	New Gazetted Speed Limit (km/h)
Thatcher Road	Entirety	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50 (Reminder/repeater signage to be installed)
Orton Road	Hopkinson Road to Warrington Road	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50 (Reminder/repeater signage to be installed)
Warrington Road	Mead Street to Orton Road	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	60
Tuart Road	Thomas Road to Anketell Road	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50 (Reminder/repeater signage to be installed)
Roman Road	Entirety	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	60
Galvin Road	Entirety	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	60
Walker Road	Karnup Road to Wattle Road	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	70
Larsen Road	Briggs Road to Rail Line	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50 (Reminder/repeater signage to be installed)



Road	Section	Previous Speed Limit (km/h)	New Gazetted Speed Limit (km/h)
Turner Road	Entirety	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50 (Reminder/repeater signage to be installed)
Evelyn Street	Entirety	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	60
Randell Road	Entirety	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	60
Hall Road	SLK 6.11 (Utley Road) to South Western Highway (inc. Fisher Road)	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	80
Yangedi Road North	Karnup Road to Henderson Road	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	80
Elliott Road	South Western Highway to Rail Line	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	60
	Rail Line to Westcott Road		80

The Shire and Main Roads also investigated the roads which come under this Notice of Motion, with the Shire desiring an enforceable, signposted speed limit rather than the default open limit of 110 km/h. As these roads contain sections with pavement widths of 4.5 metres or less, Main Roads stipulated that if a signposted speed limit was to apply rather than the default unposted limit, they would be subject to a posted limit of 50 km/h due to road safety considerations.

This adopted measure was in line with many of the audit recommendations for these roads which indicated high crash risks if the default, unposted 110km/h limit were to remain on these roads (due to roadside hazards). In comparison, normal Main Roads policy dictates a default, unposted limit for roads under 5.5 metre seal width (with 5.5m being the minimum standard width for two-way traffic).

Main Roads began implementing this 50 km/h speed limit change (together with the other speed limit changes) during 2024 and early 2025, however, this was questioned by community members due to the significant speed differential between a default 110km/h limit and an enforced 50 km/h.



In addition, other outer metropolitan and regional jurisdictions have continued with the normal Main Roads policy of unposted limits for narrow roads and hence the different approach in the Shire of Serpentine Jarrahdale was also questioned.

On the basis of providing consistency across the Shire and adjacent jurisdictions' road networks, Officers are in general supportive of the concept of requesting Main Roads to revert these roads to a default (unposted) speed limit, however the prevailing conditions along these roads will continue to present road safety risks for the Shire going forward. Table 2 below further details the road sections which are requested to revert back to the default limit.

Shire Officers therefore support the Councillor Recommendation that Main Roads be requested to revert the above listed roads to default speed limits.

Table 2 – Road Sections Requested to Revert to Default Speed Limit

Road	Section	Length (km)	Pavement Width (m)	Previous Speed Limit (km/h)	New Gazetted Speed Limit (km/h)
Lightbody Road	Entirety	3.23	4.3 - 5.5	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50
Shanley Road	Entirety	4.11	3.9	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50
Coogly Road	Entirety	1.34	3.6	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50
Feast Road	Entirety	1.97	4.2	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50
Summerfield Road	Lowlands Road to Richardson Street	2.17	4.9 - 6.5	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50
Gull Road	Entirety	5.07	3.6 - 4.4	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50
Scrivener Road	South Western Highway to Scarp Road North	6.00	3.6 - 4.5	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50
Selkirk Road	Entirety	1.63	3.6	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50
Punrak Road	Karnup Road to Yangedi Road	8.50	3.6 - 3.7	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50
Utlely Road	Entirety	6.56	3.6 - 4.4	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50
Westcott Road	Utlely Road to Elliott Road	7.68	3.6	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50
Jarrahdale Road	Karnup Road to Punrak Road	5.56	5.2	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	60
Henderson Road	Hopeland Road to Westcott Road	4.10	3.5 - 6	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50



Road	Section	Length (km)	Pavement Width (m)	Previous Speed Limit (km/h)	New Gazetted Speed Limit (km/h)
Henderson W Road	River Road to Punrak Road	2.14	7.0m sealed section	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50
Hall Road	SLK 0.00 (Summerfield Road) to SLK 1.76 (Karnup Road)	1.76	3.0 – 5.2	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50
Yangedi Road South	Punrak Road to Shire Boundary	4.04	3.9	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	60
Elliott Road	Westcott Road to Hopeland Road	4.07	3.4 - 6	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50
	Sealed section West of Hopeland Road	3.20	4.4		50
Rapids Road	Karnup Road to Utley Road	3.1	3.5 - 4	Default (50 urban, 110 rural)	50

Community / Stakeholder Consultation

Policy Concept Forum

Meeting Date	27 November 2023
Elected Members in Attendance	President Coales, Cr Bishop, Cr Byas, Cr Duggin, Cr Jerrett, Cr Mack,

Attachments (available under separate cover)

Nil.

Voting Requirements: Simple Majority

Elected Member Recommendation

That Council:

- REQUESTS the Chief Executive Officer write to Main Roads WA to formally request a return to the default (i.e. non-signposted) speed limit the following roads which were recently gazetted/signposted at 50 km/h:**
 - Lightbody Road
 - Shanley Road
 - Coogly Road
 - Feast Road
 - Summerfield Road



- **Gull Road**
 - **Scrivener Road**
 - **Selkirk Road**
 - **Jarrah Road**
 - **Yangedi Road South**
 - **Punrak Road**
 - **Utleigh Road**
 - **Westcott Road**
 - **Henderson Road**
 - **Elliott Road**
 - **Rapids Road**
 - **Hall Road - SLK 0.00 (Summerfield Road) to SLK 1.76 (Karnup Road)**
- 2. REQUESTS the Chief Executive Officer write to Main Roads WA to provide options on suitable traffic signage available for installation in rural areas to remind drivers of the risks associated with driving on rural roads.**