

30 April 2024

File Ref: IRC-6108

Naomi Steenkamp
fyi-request-25986-8865b9b8@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Ms Steenkamp

Thank you for your email of 4 March 2024 to Wellington City Council | Te Kaunihera o Pōneke (the Council) requesting information regarding speed bumps on Hawkins Hill Road, Brooklyn. Your request has been considered under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA). Please find my response below.

- 1. Please advise the total cost budgeted and approved for the planned install of 12 Watts Design speed humps on Hawkins Hill Road, Brooklyn in March 2024, or as an alternative - please provide the cost per hump (i.e. total cost / 12).*

I am unable to provide the exact cost for the speed humps (grouped or individually), nor am I able to provide you with the differences between the contractor quotations. Where information has been provided to the Council by a third party and that information falls in scope of an answer for a LGOIMA response, in line with the [Ombudsman guidance](#), the Council consults with the third parties to ascertain any concerns that they may have about the information being released.

When consulting with our contractors involved in the project did not want the costs related to specific tasks made available, as the information is commercially sensitive. For this reason, I am withholding information related to question one pursuant to section 7(2)(b)(ii) of the LGOIMA, to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

Financial information I am able to provide is the total allocated capital budget of \$1,624,000 for the minor improvements project to complete works between Ashton Fitchett Drive and the former Woffingtons site. To date the Council has spent \$1,232,000 on the Hawkins Hill Right of Way (RoW) minor improvements which has been focused between Ashton Fitchett Drive and Southernthread Road RoW. The Council has contractual commitments of \$196,400 for physical and engineering works still to be completed between Ashton Fitchett Drive and the former Woffingtons site, bringing our actual and committed spend to \$1,428,400.

Pending resource consent approval for earth works, the Council will be committing the remaining \$195,600 to carry out sight line visibility improvements and carriage way resealing between Southernthread Road RoW and the former Woffingtons before the end of June 2024. Engineering works have been undertaken on this section and consideration was given to not completing the earth works with the decision made to progress as far as our project budget will allow to improve RoW user safety on this last section.

- 2. Please provide:*
 - a. the difference in cost between the initial contractor's (Mills Albert) quotation for the works, and the current quotation accepted (PCL Contracting), and;*

The tendering process for contractors is completed with an obligation of confidence, as contractors provide specific details that relate to their commercial vantage. To maintain the same level of

confidence in the Council by current and future contractors, as well as the commercial sensitivities involved in the contracts themselves, I am withholding the difference in cost between contractors pursuant to section 7(2)(b)(ii) of the LGOIMA, to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.

- b. *the reasons why the "Pavement and Minor Safety Improvement" project only commenced 24 February 2022 - some 3 years 3 months after gaining the approval and support in the City Strategy Committee Meeting of 22 November 2018 - and is still not completed 2 years later?*

Resolution 4.1.2c of the [City Strategy Meeting of 22 November 2018](#) directed officers to Quantify and apply for funding through the 2021 Long-Term Plan (LTP) to deliver improvements and maintenance on the RoW which was approved in June 2021. Between July 2021 and February 2022 when the project started, Council submitted a request for tender to engage and appoint a contractor to deliver the project.

Initially Council had negotiated agreement with private landowners to allow access over private property for Hawkins Hill RoW users so they could exit Long Gully via Wrights Hill while the RoW was closed for maintenance works to occur which was removed in June 2022. This meant our contractors could not complete resurfacing works as quickly as expected and a change in methodology was needed to complete the works while still allowing for traffic movements on the RoW. This change combined with increased seasonal rainfall led to our project engineers, Tonkin and Taylor, and contractor advising to postpone works until Spring so that they could adjust their methodology and wait for better weather to lay asphalt with work recommencing in October 2022.

Except for installing the speed humps, all work on sections A and B (found in Tonkin and Taylor's [Design Report](#)) were completed by March 2023 and by mutual agreement, Mills Albert Contracting finished work on the project. Following this, Council investigated options with our roading maintenance contractors on how to install the speed humps without closing the road and ended up carrying out the works at night which occurred in March 2024.

Council currently has a resource consent underway for earthworks on section C (also found in the Tonkin and Taylor Design Report) to improve sightline and visibility and if granted are expecting to undertake the work in late May/early June. Upon completion of this stage of work, Hawkins Hill RoW will revert to our maintenance team in Parks, Sport and Recreation.

As per section 7(1) of the LGOIMA, I do not consider that in the circumstances of this response, the withholding of this information is outweighed by the other considerations which render it desirable to in the public interest to make the information available.

You have the right, by way of complaint under section 28(1) of the LGOIMA, to request an investigation and review of the Council's decision to withhold information by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you require further information, please contact assurance@wcc.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā



Danika Morris-Brown
Senior Advisor Official Information
Complaints & Information Assurance
Wellington City Council