



31 May 2024

Spencer H

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Dear Spencer H

Request for Information – Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (the Act) 1987

We refer to your request of 11 May 2024 for:

Please provide any consultation and decision documents related to the raised pedestrian crossing outside Taita College. Of particular interest is any data and/or supporting research used in the assessment and decision making identifying the need for a second crossing within a few hundred metres and any surveying completed for 'risk' behaviours such as speed monitoring and infringements, crashes or near misses that justified the use of a raised crossing as opposed to another crossing design.

Response:

1. Initial Request from Ministry of Education (MOE): An incident occurred where a Taita College student was seriously injured while crossing Eastern Hutt Road near the bus stops.

The Ministry of Education requested Hutt City Council's assistance in improving student safety measures, particularly regarding exit points from the school and pedestrian access to bus stops.

2. Hutt City Council Investigation: Council acknowledged the existing primary crossing but recognised the need for a secondary crossing point due to:

- Back entrance of the school grounds
- Frequent use of the playground on weekends
- Proximity to a marae and bus stops



3. Design Consultation: A conceptual design for a raised pedestrian crossing was developed and consultation was undertaken with:

- Taita College representatives
- Nearby residents
- Local businesses.

4. Taita College Response: The college principal expressed appreciation for the proposed crossing and its potential to improve safety for the school community. The college highlighted their redevelopment plans, including the need to ensure optimal placement of the crossing in relation to the upcoming construction. Agreement was reached on the concept of a raised pedestrian crossing at the northern end by the bus stop.

5. Final Crossing Location: Council collaborated with Taita College to determine the final placement of the crossing, resulting in its current location.

6. Existing Crossing Upgrade: The college also requested an upgrade to the existing primary crossing and Council advised the request would be included in a future works program for further investigation.

7. Rationale for Additional Crossing: While a primary crossing exists, the new raised crossing addresses a secondary desire line for student movement towards the playground, marae, and bus stops. This additional safety measure is intended to mitigate risks associated with the specific road layout and doesn't intend to replace the primary pedestrian crossing.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response to your information request may be published on Hutt City Council's website. Please refer to the following link: www.huttcity.govt.nz/council/contactus/make-an-official-information-act-request/proactive-releases

Yours sincerely

Philip Rossiter

Senior Advisor, Official Information and Privacy