

SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL

25 OCTOBER 2017

AGENDA ITEM C4

SEAL EXTENSION RECOMMENDATION

Purpose of Report

To inform Councillors of the selected road for this year's seal extension.

Recommendations

Officers recommend that the Council:

1. *Receive the Seal Extension Recommendation Report.*
2. *Accept Shooting Butts Road as the section to be sealed this year.*

1. Executive Summary

The maintenance costs of a sealed road are two times that of an unsealed road which is part of the desire for residents to have the road sealed, to achieve the higher levels of service.

It is this cost escalation which was a key driver in New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) removing the seal extension subsidy, i.e. if all roads in the district were sealed the maintenance costs alone (excluding the capital cost) would increase by over \$418K pa.

Council has received requests to seal roads "seal extensions" to improve the amenity of the road and adjacent properties. The reasoning generally is presented by the affected resident in the form of "the road needs to be sealed because ..." There are many various options that can be considered other than sealing such as signage, increased maintenance, road geometry etc. All are viable options to address safety.

Council has this year committed to carry out seal extensions without NZTA subsidy to the value of \$125,829.

The suggested section of road is from the end of seal on Shooting Butts Road.

2. Background

The upgrade of Shooting Butts Road will include drainage and culvert work required to assist in the prevention of localised flooding as well as the increased amenity in the area from less dust.

The existing sealed section will also be included into the reseal program to have continuity of surface and cleared shoulders and drainage.

The section beyond the proposed seal extension is not considered for seal extension for several reasons. One of the primary reasons is for traffic flows and the possible use as a back entrance to Martinborough. Also the horizontal geometry will require substantial works and combined with a near straight lateral geometry will cause further safety concerns.

The levels of service will be as per the One Network Road Classifications.



3. Discussion

3.1 Options

There are several options for seal extensions and each road has its merits in sealing. However rather than review all candidates, one has been chosen based on the proximity to town, traffic counts and those affected by the upgrade.

3.2 Consultation

Seal extensions were consulted on in the last Long Term Plan (LTP) and it was decided to continue with the programme funded outside of the NZTA funding.

3.3 Financial considerations

The costs are provided for in the capital unsubsidised roading account.

Contact Officer: Mark Allingham, Group Manager Infrastructure & Services