

Reference Number: 2025/1199

25 March 2025

[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe | Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email dated 14 March 2025 requesting under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA), information relating to raised pedestrian crossings. Please see outlined below a response to each part of your request.

When did you build your first raised pedestrian crossing, and why? (As opposed to a standard zebra crossing)

We're not able to verify exactly when the first raised pedestrian crossing was installed in Horowhenua. The earliest appear to be either the crossing on Salisbury Street, Levin or Weraroa Road, Levin. From historic aerial photographs, we believe they were installed sometime between 1989 and 2001. We're not able to provide any commentary on why these were installed, though it can be assumed they were intended to provide a safer place for pedestrians to cross the road.

In terms of why a raised pedestrian crossing would be installed opposed to a zebra crossing, it should be noted that a zebra crossing can (and usually should) be installed on a raised safety platform, so a raised safety platform is not mutually exclusive with a zebra crossing.

When investigating and designing a pedestrian crossing facility, there are a number of treatments which can be assessed and selected for a given site. NZTA's Pedestrian Planning and Design Guide is an excellent resource for selecting the correct treatment.

Broadly Zebra crossings can be considered as a treatment which doesn't actually improve pedestrian safety in isolation, to improve safety, additional supporting infrastructure is needed, such as a raised safety platform, pedestrian refuge, and kerb build-outs. The benefits of zebra crossings are around reducing the delays to pedestrians, by requiring vehicles to give way, so a zebra crossing is worth considering if the designer is trying to reduce delays for pedestrians, at the expense of delays for vehicles.

How many have you built since?

We have a total of 16 raised safety platforms in Horowhenua in total.

In the past 5 years, how many pedestrians have been injured on traditional zebra crossings in your area?

2

In the past 5 years, how many pedestrians have been injured on raised pedestrian crossings in your area?

1

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

Horowhenua District Council publishes responses to Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) requests that we consider to be of wider public interest, or which relate to a subject that has been widely requested. To protect your privacy, we will not generally publish personal information about you, or information that identifies you. We will publish the LGOIMA response along with a summary of the request on our website. Requests and responses may be paraphrased.

If you would like to discuss this decision or any of the information provided as part of this request, please contact Daniel Haigh (Group Manager Community Infrastructure) on danielh@horowhenua.govt.nz, or LGOIMAOfficer@horowhenua.govt.nz.

Ngā mihi | Best regards



Monique Davidson
Chief Executive