REPORT TO: PLANNING & TRANSPORT COMMITTEE - 8 SEPTEMBER 2008

REPORT ON: PERTH ROAD, RIVERSIDE DRIVE & NINEWELLS AVENUE SPEED

LIMITS

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION

REPORT NO: 393-2008

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 This report considers the review of the existing speed limits on Perth Road, Riverside Drive and Ninewells Avenue.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Committee approve the proposed reduction of the speed limit from 40mph to 30mph on Perth Road, Riverside Drive and Ninewells Avenue at the following locations:
 - a Perth Road between the junctions with Riverside Drive and Riverside Avenue;
 - b Riverside Drive between the junctions with Riverside Avenue and Perth Road; and
 - c Ninewells Avenue throughout the entire length between the junctions with Perth Road and Glamis Road.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The cost of alterations to the necessary signage is estimated at £2,000. This will be met from the Planning & Transportation Department's 2009/09 Revenue Budget for Minor Traffic Works.

4 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 A significant number of complaints have been received on behalf of adjacent residents to re-assess the local speed limit of the section of Perth Road from the junction with Riverside Drive to the junction of A85 Riverside Avenue, near Invergowrie.
- 4.2 This section of the Perth Road (C253), has remained a 40mph speed limit since 1961. It serves as an alternative route to the A85 Riverside Avenue. It is a local distributor road, a main link on the east/west corridor to Ninewells Hospital and a busy bus route. Typical 24 hour traffic volume is approximately 9,000 vehicles.
- 4.3 A speed limit assessment was carried out where the main factors included existing speed survey results, accident history and severity, concerns from the local community where fast moving traffic may cause severance, while taking account of the function and type of road as outlined above. The Scottish Government has produced guidance for Local Authorities when setting local speed limits and the assessment was carried out in accordance with Circular No 1/2006.

4.4 The results of the surveys and investigations relating to the main factors of speed, accident history and community concerns were as follows:

a Speed Survey Results

Speeds were surveyed on Perth Road to the east and west of Ninewells Avenue Roundabout. The average speeds were 37mph and 38 mph respectively.

b injury Accident History

Accident records were reviewed for the 3 year period 2005 to 2007.

Where remedial action has been taken at specific locations, eg Riverside Drive/Perth Road junction and Riverside Avenue/Perth Road junction, the accident data prior to the date of the improvements has been discounted. Any accidents within 70 metres of the roundabout have also been discounted due to locally reduced speeds.

The section of road between Riverside Avenue junction and Ninewells Avenue Roundabout has no accident history over the 3 year period.

The section between Ninewells Avenue roundabout and Riverside Drive junction shows one serious and one slight injury accident within 100 metres of the roundabout and one slight injury accident at the Riverside Drive/Perth Road junction over the same period.

c <u>Local Concerns</u>

Although the injury accident history is not significant and in itself may not warrant remedial measures, and mean speeds are below the current maximum permitted speed, there is a high level of anxiety from local residents with regard to perceived road safety issues associated with the 40 mph speed limit.

- 4.5 In view of local concern it is proposed to lower the speed limit of the section of Perth Road between Riverside Drive junction and Riverside Avenue junction from 40 mph to the national speed limit in urban areas of 30 mph. The minimum recommended length of a speed limit should generally be not less than 600 metres to avoid too many changes of speed limit along the route, as advised in Circular 1/2006. It would therefore be appropriate to include the section of Riverside Drive from the Perth Road junction to Riverside Avenue roundabout within the proposed 30mph limit.
- 4.6 There are further implications to the speed limit on Ninewells Avenue which is currently 40mph. Under the current proposals the route from Riverside Avenue to Glamis Road would result in variations of speed limit from 50mph on Riverside Avenue to 30mph on Perth Road, then 40mph on Ninewells Avenue to 30mph on Glamis Road. For consistency and to avoid confusion it is therefore recommended that Ninewells Avenue is also changed from a 40mph speed limit to a 30mph speed limit.

5 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

This Report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management. There are no major issues.

6 CONSULTATIONS

6.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Support Services), Depute Chief Executive (Finance), Head of Finance, Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning) and the Chief Constable have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 There are no background papers of relevance to this report.

Mike Galloway Director of Planning & Transportation Neil Gellatly Acting Assistant Head of Transportation

MPG/NHG/GH/KM 29 August 2008

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