What is a 40km/h High Pedestrian Activity Area (HPAA)?

These are areas of high pedestrian activity, near shopping strips, railway stations, bus interchanges, beach-sides and services such as medical centres. The maximum speed limit is 40km/h at all times. The different road environment helps to alert drivers to the lower speed limit and makes them aware of the presence of pedestrians moving about or near the road. This creates a safer road environment for all road users, particularly for pedestrians, cyclists and children.

Why 40 km/h?

Managing speed, in accordance with safe system principles, is a key component in managing pedestrian safety. Research and scientific analysis show that a pedestrian hit by a car travelling at 40 km/h has twice the chance of surviving the collision than if the car was travelling 50 km/h. Travelling speeds higher than 40 km/h greatly increases the risk of injury and death to pedestrians.

How is a 40km/h HPAA created?

Local councils, in partnership with Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) design and implement the schemes in accordance with the Transport for NSW (TfNSW) guidelines for 40km/h zones.

How will I know a 40km/h HPAA?

These are schemes where the street environment makes drivers and pedestrians aware of the different driving conditions.

Signs like this are used to clearly define the beginning of a 40km/h zone.

There may also be other features such as pavement markings, road hump, pedestrian refuge and kerb extension.

Pedestrian safety

Transport for NSW, Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) and local councils are strongly focused on pedestrian safety. They recognise that everyone is a pedestrian at some time and should be able to walk safely.

40 km/h High Pedestrian Activity areas are part of a strategy to reduce the number and severity of crashes. They have been introduced since 1991 as part of Local Area Traffic Management schemes.

Changing the way streets are used in town centres improves the quality of life. They become places for people, not just traffic.

Comments

The success of a 40km/h HPAA depends on community involvement and participation during their development and operation.

Send your comments to:

Council

Attach Council details for comments

Roads and Maritime Services

Website: www.rms.nsw.gov.au
Phone: 13 22 13
Mail: Locked Bag 928
North Sydney NSW 2059

For more fact sheets on speed management, visit saferoadsnsw.com.au

Transport for NSW
For further enquiries
13 22 13

The information in this brochure is intended as a guide only and is subject to change at any time without notice. It does not replace the relevant legislation.