

Improved road safety with rumble strips

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Research and trials have demonstrated significant safety benefits could be gained by increasing the use of rumble strips on New Zealand's highways. A research report prepared by TERNZ for NZTA found that rumble strips are particularly effective in reducing crashes caused by driver fatigue and inattention and up to 70 percent of our highways could be made safer by their installation.

KiwiRAP identified them as one of the most cost effective road safety improvement tools available, with the potential to reduce injury crashes by 20–45 percent in the locations where they are installed.

Currently installed on around 15% of the State Highway, with very little on Regional Roads, the programme to extend this is being managed through the NZTA Safer Roads and Roadsides Programme. However, with road fatalities and serious harm statistics in 2015 and 2016 reversing recent improvements, this cost effective road safety enhancement, which the pavement marking industry has the capacity to quickly install, should be revisited