

Traffic management measures for Strand Road

1 Introduction

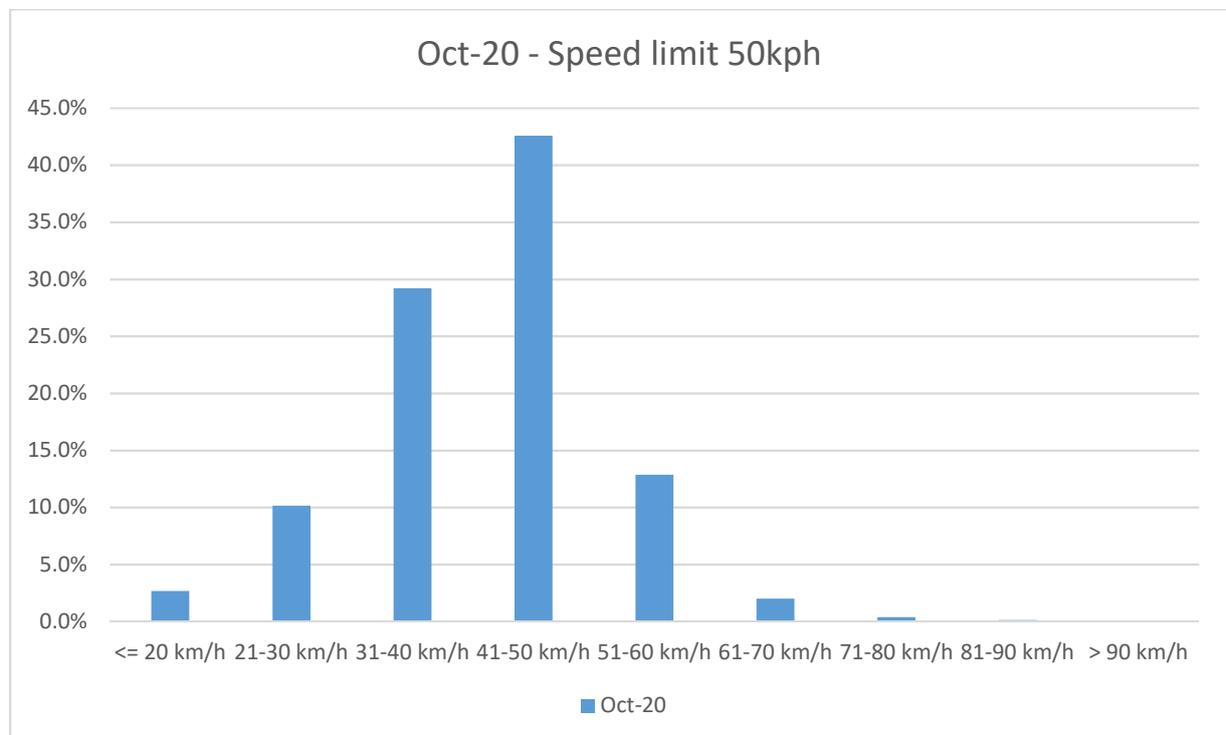
Residents of Strand Road have requested that measures are looked at to reduce the speed on the road and reduce the number of HGVs.

Strand road is a designated regional road, the R131 and is one of two regional roads in the Sandymount area (the other being Bath Avenue/Londonbridge road which is the regional road the R111 and is also the designated outer orbital route for the city). Strand road is a residential road with residents on one side and a Special area of conservation on the other.

Unlike Bath Avenue which has traffic calming ramps and a shuttle system, there are no traffic management measures to reduce speed or volumes. Sustainable transport modes (pedestrian and cyclists) have a 17% mode share of the traffic i.e almost 1 in every 5 users often road is walking or cycling (Jun 2021).

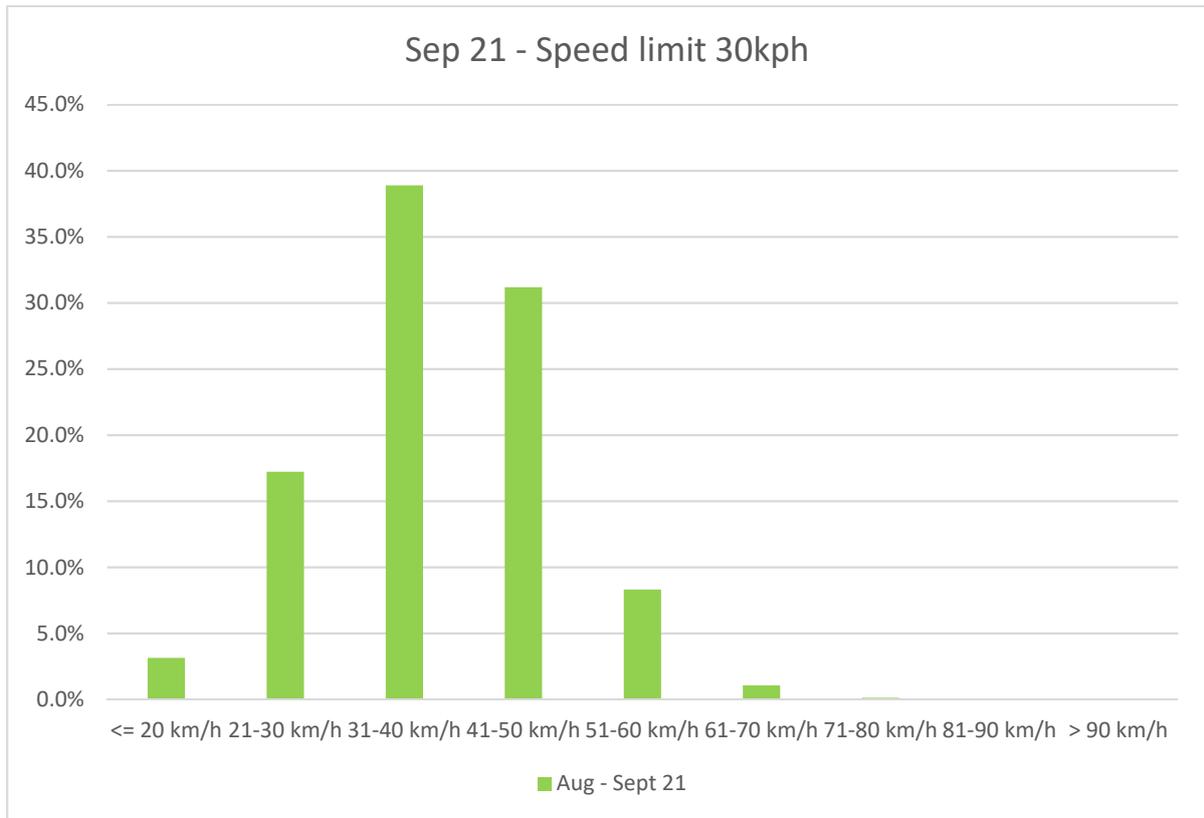
2 Speed

Speed is the main issue concerning residents of strand road. Unlike other roads within Sandymount which have a 30kph limit, Strand road is 50 kph. A speed survey carried out in October 2020 when the speed limit on Strand road was 50kph showed approx. 15% of vehicles exceeded the speed limit.

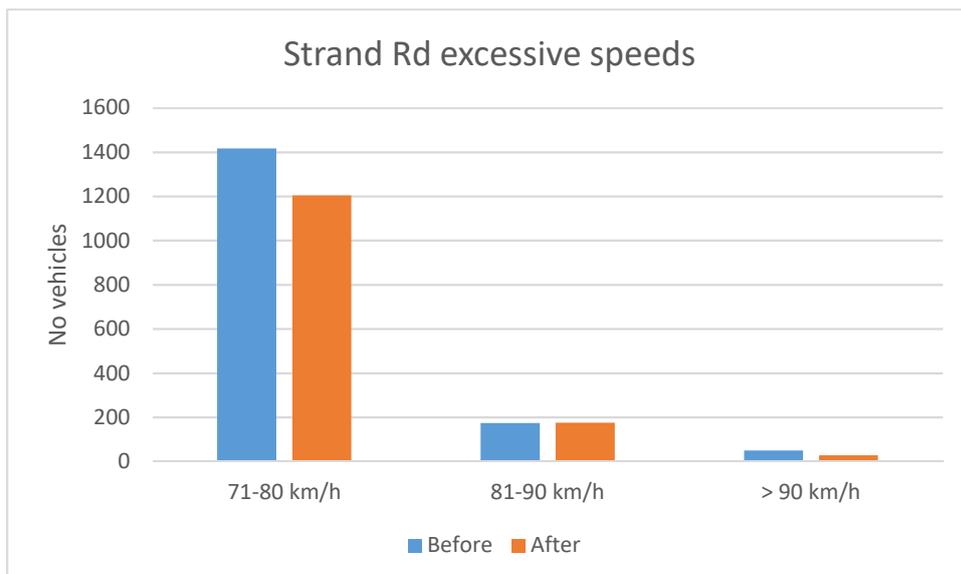


In March 2021 a 6 month temporary roadworks speed limit was introduced. 80% of vehicles exceeded the 30 kph speed limit with just 20% obeying the speed limit. The profile did change

slightly with the majority of vehicles travelling in the 31 – 40 kph band compared to the 41 – 50 kph band.



The number of vehicles travelling at excessive speeds didn't change significantly following the reduced speed limit.



The temporary speed limit has now expired and the 50 kph limit is currently being restored (signs are currently being amended). When the speed limit was 50 kph there was approximately 1,800 vehicles a day on Strand Road and almost 2,000 a day on Beach road exceeding 50 kph, *equating to approximately 1 in every 7 vehicles exceeding the 50kph speed limit*. There is also approximately 55 vehicles a day exceeding 70 kph.

Recommendation: install speed ramps on Strand road and Beach road to reduce speed and increase safety for all road users. This approach would be similar to nearby roads such as Bath Avenue and Nutley Lane which also have 50kph speed limits and where speed ramps have been installed.

3 HGVs

At present Strand road has a 5 axle ban between the hours of 7am and 7pm. A specific 24 hour count was undertaken in September 2021 which provided the registration numbers of all 5 axle HGVs travelling on Strand road. Between the hours of 7am to 7pm, 100% of the 5 axle HGVs on Strand road did not have a permit and so were breaking the HGV cordon.

Additionally, the HGV permit app maps reports of HGVs using an area without a permit with red being an area of large numbers of non permit HGVs using a road. As can be seen from the data below Strand road is one area where this is an issue:



Strand road is not a designated route to Dublin Port, the Tom Clarke bridge or the Dublin Tunnel. However the data and correspondence from residents indicates that this route is being used by HGVs for this purpose.

Recommendation: extend 5 axle HGV ban to 24 hour for Strand road and engage with An Garda Siochana to increase enforcement.

4 On street parking

Currently there are areas of Strand road where parking uses the footpath, severely reducing the available width of the footpath to less than 1m in many areas. There is sufficient road width in most of these locations to park on the roadway. This would also acts as an additional traffic management measure.



Recommendation: mark out parking bays on the roadway (not paid or permit parking) where there is sufficient width.