

Waipapa
Papanui-Innes Community Board
MINUTES ATTACHMENTS

Date: Friday 26 July 2019
Time: 9am
Venue: Board Room, Papanui Service Centre,
Corner Langdons Road and Restell Street, Papanui

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Papanui Primary School

The Papanui Pathway
Kimihia te ara tōtika - seek the right path



22 July 2019

Ali Jones
Board Chair
Papanui-Innes Community Board
Christchurch

Dear Ali

We are writing this letter to express our concerns about recurrent flooding of the Grimseys Road underpass during significant rain events. We are hoping that your community board will be able to assist us to find a permanent resolution to this problem and promptly.

During prolonged rain events this underpass seems to become a catchment for a large amount of water and fills up like a swimming pool. This has occurred twice in recent months (June 2-4 and July 20-22) and causes huge disruption and issues with children and families from our community being able to safely get to and from school. This is a major thoroughfare for our community and we cannot tolerate this underpass continuing to flood in the future. For some children if the underpass is blocked they have no alternate means of transport. No child should have to start their school day with wet feet or be expected to find an alternative safe route to school.

We would like to acknowledge the great work of your board member Emma Norrish in assisting us to get the water pumped away as quickly as possible once she puts a request through, but often this has been after many members of the public have phoned through to the council to request assistance to no avail. Also after the water is cleared the underpass is left in a horrendous state with mud and rubbish which is extremely unpleasant to walk, scoot or bike through.

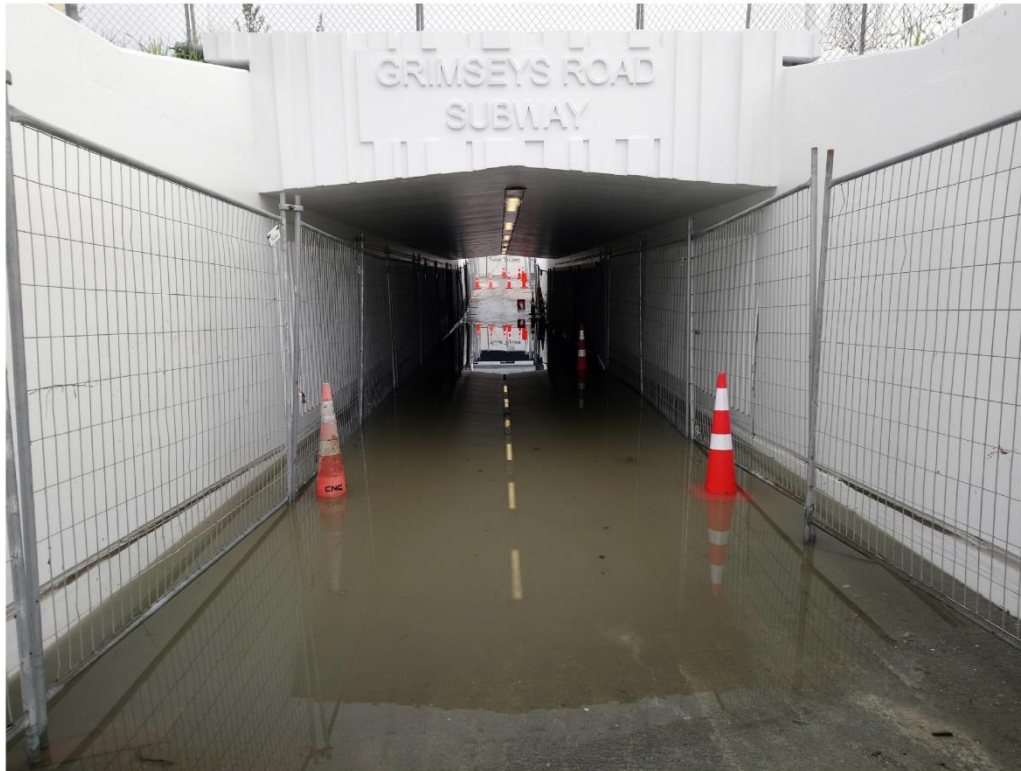
We appreciate your prompt action and assistance with this matter which has become a health and safety concern for our school and community.

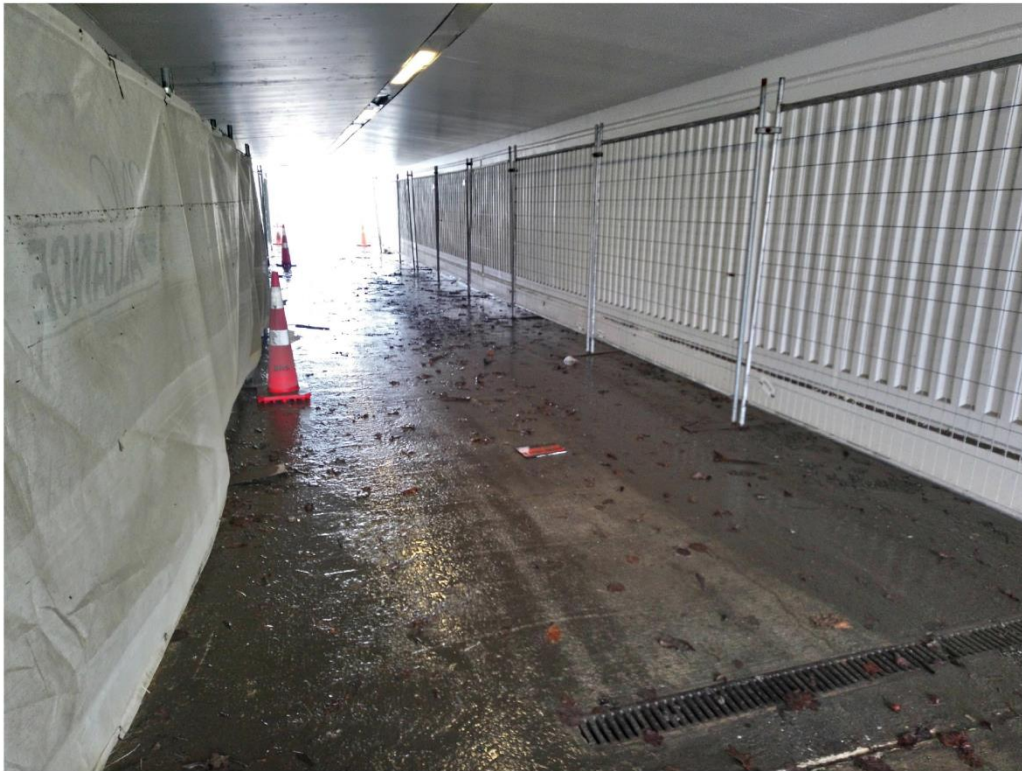
We have included photos and an email from a concerned member of the public who assisted two pupils to safely get to school to support this letter.

Yours sincerely

Carolyn Brazier
Board Chair
Papanui Primary School

40 Winters Road, Papanui, Christchurch 8051, New Zealand
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Website: www.papanuiprimary.school.nz





Date: 22/07/19 11:20 AM (GMT+12:00)

To: admin@pps.school.nz

Subject: Kids that needed picked up from Grimseys Underpass today

Hi,

I am the woman who met two of your children (Jayden and Shanelle (?) this morning when I was biking to the Grimseys Rd Underpass. They were waiting by the road cones in the flooded underpass with no way through and asked if I could help them. I was concerned that they were stuck somewhere with no idea of what to do next. They could not tell me their mothers cell number, only that she had left for work and sent them off biking to school (I met them at around 810-815).

The boy Jayden wanted to cross QEII Drive itself to get to school, which I would not let him do due to the massive danger. I am very concerned that if I was not there they might have attempted this.

Could you please communicate to their mother that they need to either know her cell number, or have a copy of it in their school bags if she is going to send them to school alone. She also needs to discuss with them a back-up plan. They understood stranger danger, and think were a bit scared of me. They could not tell me of any friends that lived nearby that we could bike to. My only option apart from calling the police was to wait until the school answered the phone at 830. The kids did not want to ring their mother anyway, as she would be upset at being late to work, sort of funny as I was being made late to work myself to be part of an interview panel for a job!

I drop my own children at the school gate or at a friends house if too early on the days I need to work, so it was very frustrating to be suddenly in charge of someone else's children because their own parent had left them and gone to work. My frustration would have eventually shown through to the children when I could get no sense out of them with options, and they would not bike the long way with me, and I apologise for this. They were obviously very worried and uncomfortable.

I am happy if any of the text I have written is shared with the children's parent/s.