

VOICE SITES

HUNGARY

Analysis and treatment of high risk sites on N 57 in Baranya County



Introduction:

Baranya County in Hungary is a densely-populated area with 301 settlements and has a 1600 km long road network. Many villages are too small and the traffic does not slow down when passing through them. What makes the situation even more dangerous, there are too few pavements and a lot of pedestrians use the roads, while cycle roads are almost completely missing. Consequently, a major task is to ensure the safety of pedestrians and cyclists.

High risk site description:

The main road N57 runs through Szederkény and has a very heavy traffic. Most drivers exceed the 50 km/h speed limit. The Hungarian Roads Management Company has therefore devised a number of measures which would lead to increased VRUs safety along the N57 road.

Follow-up action:

A number of traffic islands and refuges were built. Refuges greatly increase the safety of pedestrians, which is especially important near schools and bus-stops. A refuge would inevitably enhance pedestrian safety at the N57 road, where a lot of people use public transport to get to the city of Pécs, while a traffic island would reduce speed of the traffic flow.



For those areas where a traffic island would be required but has not been installed due to insufficient resources, a transversal road markings warning to reduce speed and speed limit signs painted on the road at the entrance into the villages.



The distance between transversal road markings is getting smaller and smaller as we approach the settlement, which forces motorists to reduce speed.

Automatic speed control detectors and infrared laser sensors were installed in 10 settlements within 200-300 meters from the spots of heaviest pedestrian traffic. Subsequent tests showed that motorists exceeding the speed limit originally, reduced it when seeing the sensor.

Conclusions:

As the result of the implemented measures the average speed of vehicles entering the village has decreased by 15 km/h.