

HINCHINBROOK ROAD SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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MINUTES OF HINCHINBROOK ROAD SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 1 APRIL 2015

Meeting Opened: 10.35am on Wednesday, 1 April 2015

1. ATTENDANCE

Present were: Mr Robert Giuliano (Engineering Compliance and Technical Officer - ECTO), Mr Rick Quabba (Queensland Mechanical Cane Harvesting Association - QMCHA), Mrs Dianne Nazzari (Hinchinbrook Shire Council - Relieving HRSAC Secretary); Mr Donald Oswin (Wilmar Sugar Australia Limited), Mr Robert Lyon (North Queensland Bio Energy - NQBE), Mr Frank Martino (Transnorth Bus Services), Mr Frank Russo (Hinchinbrook Chamber of Commerce Industry & Tourism - HCCI&T), Ms Alison Barlow (Department of Transport and Main Roads - DTMR); Mr Rick Butler (Stone River Bus Service); Denise Elrick (Department of Transport and Main Roads - DTMR); Mr Geoff Boremann (Queensland Police Services - QPS); Mr John Tantalio (Queensland Police Services - QPS), Mr Gavin Burnett (Queensland Police Services - QPS).

APOLOGIES

An apology for non-attendance was received from: Mayor Rodger Bow (Hinchinbrook Shire Council - HRSAC Chairperson), Mr James Stewart (Executive Manager Engineering Services - EMES); Dr Jenna Devietti (Works Engineer - HSC); Mr Lenny Toscano (Australia Post), Mr Barry Young (Queensland Rail - QR); Mr Jeff Aitchinson (Hinchinbrook Traffic Control - HTC); Ms Nicole Smart (Transport and Main Roads - TMR); Grahame Dickson (Wilmar Australia Limited).

2. CONFIRM MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING OF 5 FEBRUARY 2015

Meeting held on 5 February 2015, be approved as a correct record of proceedings.

Moved by: Mr Frank Martino

Seconded by: Mr Don Oswin

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES - 5 FEBRUARY 2015

3.1 Mayor Rodger Bow advised that he has raised concerns regarding the current positioning of the 80 km/hr before Challands Street, Ingham, and has requested for the sign to be moved.

Item to be carried.

Mr Dale Mackenzie to investigate and report back to the next HRSAC Meeting.

To be carried

Ms Denise Elrick advised that DTMR believe that the shift is not warranted due to the area being out of town. Council to provide DTMR with traffic data for side roads to assist in making final decision.

HRSAC Secretary presented Council's traffic counts for Challands Street - 444 and Martin Street - 508, taken in March 2010. Denise Elrick to provide counts to Transport and Main Roads for consideration in moving speed signage.

Traffic count figures tabled for Challand Street and Martin Street. Denise Elrick advised that DTMR had installed a camera for a couple of weeks to check traffic flows. The existing signage and lane marking seems to be working well. Ms Elrick advised that she would be happy to look at Council figures but advised that current traffic volume doesn't appear to impact on existing speed zones. Frank Martino and Ricky Butler still have concerns re turning into Challand Street from the Bruce Highway and from Challand Street turning onto the Bruce Highway with the 100 km speed zone slow vehicles such as buses and trucks are getting abused by the faster travelling motorists having to slow down. Discussions followed on the "100 Km/hr" sign opposite the turn into Larsens Road being removed and replaced with an advisory "80 km/hr" sign which would give motorists time to prepare to slow down. Frank Martino also asked about the installation of a "Heavy Vehicle Turning" sign in the same area.

ACTION: *Denise Elrick to follow up on.*

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3.2 Confusion tourists are having regarding DTMR signs directing them from the highway south (TYTO) to Wallaman Falls.

Mr Robert Giuliano (ECTO) met with Department of Transport and Main Roads [DTMR] to discuss. DTMR to investigate.

Waiting on response from DTMR in Brisbane. To be carried

To be carried.

Ms Nicole Smart to discuss with Ms Cheryl Ridd from Transport and Main Roads.

MS Denise Elrick advised of correspondence from Ms Nicole Smart [DTMR] advising that the Wallaman Falls sign at Hawkins Street intersection would be relocated as it was found to be misleading. Mr Robert Giuliano asked about removing the Wallaman Falls sign on McIlwraith Street corner as it was confusing tourists.

ACTION: *Denise Elrick to follow up on.*

3.3 Mr Giovanni Tantalo from Queensland Police Service (QPS) emailed concerns raised from a resident of Cordelia in relation to the speed limit for Eddleston Drive, Cordelia, particularly within and approaching the township. The resident is requesting an upgrade of the current 60 km/hr speed limit signage to a larger sign or drop the speed limit to 50 km/hr.

Mr James Stewart suggested that Council do a traffic speed count before and after the installation of the new "check your speed sign" to monitor effectiveness.

Mr Dale Mackenzie and Mr James Stewart to discuss this further.

To be carried.

Mr James Stewart advised that traffic counts have been submitted to Transport and Main Roads. It was noted that a reduction in speed limit is not warranted. Transport and Main Roads to look into installing a "Check your Speed" sign.

Ms Denise Elrick advised that a speed review had been conducted. The results indicate that no change to the speed signage is required. Mr Giovanni Tantalo from Queensland Police Service (QPS) advised that local member Mr. Andrew Cripps had previously contacted him in regard to the speeding concerns and recommended a stronger police presence. Mr Tantalo advised that the police have been patrolling more frequently in the area and this seems to be making a difference.

ACTION: *A review will be conducted by Mr Giovanni Tantalo during the cane season when traffic flows will be heavier. Matter closed.*

3.4 Robert Lyon raised that there is a bad sink in the road at the bottom of the cutaway just before Gowrie Creek Bridge on Abergowrie Road.

Mr James Stewart noted and to discuss the concern further with Mr Dale Mackenzie.

To be brought up with Council's Infrastructure Engineer to discuss if works can be included in the NDRRA program.

Proposal to be presented to Council for works to be included in the Forward Capital Works Program. Dr Jenna Devietti to investigate temporary repairs in the interim.

Some NDRRA work has been done in the vicinity but did not take in the sink in the road.

ACTION: *Robert Giuliano (ECTO) to follow up with Colin Gray (Infrastructure Engineer and Dr Jenna Devietti (Works Engineer)*

3.5 Mr James Stewart advised that the intersection of Cartwright Street and Hardy Street requires a roundabout to be installed due to a lack of visibility in this area.

Mr James Stewart and Mr Dale Mackenzie to inspect

Ms Denise Elrick advised that DTMR have discussed and don't think a roundabout would fit unless resumption of land is undertaken as well as movement of street lights and power poles. DTMR to continue investigation and report back to the next HRSAC meeting.

Transport and Main Roads advised that a roundabout won't fit. Mr James Stewart advised that he will organise Council Design Department to investigate further.

Mr James Stewart was unable to attend the meeting so no comment was available.

ACTION: *Robert Giuliano (ECTO) to follow up with Design and James Stewart re fit.*

- 3.6 Dr Jenna Devietti advised that Council had received correspondence from the Quabba Brothers requesting for the Halifax Road intersection to be improved to allow large machinery to manoeuvre onto the Bruce Highway safely to travel north.

Ms Denise Elrick advised that she will raise this concern with DTMR to be investigated.

HRSAC Secretary to write to Quabba Brothers advising that their concerns have been raised at the HRSAC meeting and DTMR have been made aware of the concern.

Correspondence sent to Robert Quabba. Ms Denise Elrick advised that Transport and Main Roads are currently looking into improving the Halifax Road intersection. HRSAC Secretary to forward correspondence from Quabba Brothers to Transport and Main Roads Refer Doc # 15/02500 [Item 4 – Outwards Correspondence].

Ms Denise advised that TMR had reviewed traffic conditions at the Halifax Road Intersection and found that the Northern Access was a problem. Ms Elrick provided a preliminary plan for proposed changes. The work has been added to TMR's work schedule. Timing of works to be advised.

ACTION: Matter closed.

- 3.7 Dr Jenna Devietti advised that Ms Rebecca Coulson from DTMR has been in contact regarding the Community Road Safety Grants - Round Four, to apply for funding for bike & pedestrian safe precinct.

Dr Jenna Devietti to advise further information at the next HRSAC meeting.

Dr Jenna Devietti advised that she has been working with Ms Rachel Coulson on preparing the application for extending footpaths along McIlwraith Street and linking to TYTO and Palm Creek bike area.

Dr Jenna Devietti was unable to attend so no comment was available.

ACTION: To be carried.

- 3.8 Road Safety Implementation Plan 2014/2016

To be carried due to recent election.

Ms Alison Barlow advised that owing to election issues timing is not ideal.

ACTION: To be reviewed in 6 months.

- 3.9 Mr Ricky Butler advised that there are currently various trivia signs implemented to break up long stretches of road down south to prevent fatigue. Mr Butler asked if Transport and Main Roads could implement something similar within our fatigue areas for example Ingham to Cardwell stretch.

Ms Denise Elrick to follow up with Transport and Main Roads Far Northern Region Department. Ms Denise Elrick to assess fatigue areas and looking at possibly installing similar signs.

Ms Denise Elrick advised that a Road Safety Review has been conducted on the fatigue stretches between Townsville and Ingham and current anti fatigue techniques in use are sufficient. Stretch between Ingham and Cardwell not considered as necessary for trivia signs etc.

ACTION: Matter closed.

- 3.10 Mr Ricky Butler advised that he is unhappy with recent works done at the intersection of Exelbys Road and Stone River Road. Mr Butler advised that he wasn't made aware of the works.

Dr Jenna Devietti advised that the bus shelter is being moved and that Council will be doing kerbing works to prevent vehicles from cutting the corner. Dr Jenna Devietti to discuss design plan with Mr Ricky Butler.

Ms Denise Elrick to investigate concern with heavy vehicles manoeuvring at the intersection.

Mr Butler advised that he is happy with new kerb works which appear to be deterring vehicles from cutting the corner. Will note how seasonal vehicles use intersection.

ACTION: Matter closed.

- 3.11 Mr Don Oswin requested to change current speed sign on Warrens Hill Road, to a similar setup to the 60km/hr to 100km/hr on Victoria Mill Road.

Dr Jenna Devietti advised that the speed signage may have changed due to NDRRA works. Dr Jenna Devietti and Mr James Stewart to investigate.

Dr Jenna Devietti was unable to attend so no comment was available.

ACTION: Robert Giuliano (ECTO) to follow up with Jenna. To be carried.

- 3.12 Mr Don Oswin advised that the rest area on the Ingham side of Bluewater is not regularly maintained.

Transport and Main Roads to investigate.

Since the last meeting TMR has caught up on its maintenance program. Area has been cleaned up.

ACTION: Matter closed.

- 3.13 Mr Jeff Aitchison advised that there have been numerous near misses on Wallaman Falls Road. Requesting a sign at the base and at the other end of Wallaman Falls Road with a UHF channel so that tourists can communicate with other when travelling on Wallaman Falls Road.

Dr Jenna Devietti to investigate.

Dr Jenna Devietti was unable to attend so no comment was available.

ACTION: Robert Giuliano (ECTO) to follow up with Jenna Devietti. To be carried.

- 3.14 Mr Robert Giuliano raised concerns that no further action has occurred regarding the dip located on Abergowrie Road.

Transport and Main Roads to follow up.

Denise Elrick (TMR) has investigated and advised that the matter will be addressed when funding becomes available. Rob Lyons advised that the problem has worsened and is dangerous. Robert Giuliano (ECTO) to discuss with Colin Gray (Infrastructure Engineer) and Dr Jenna Devietti (Works Engineer) to do interim maintenance for safety reasons.

ACTION: To be carried.

- 3.15 Dr Jenna Devietti advised that concerns were raised at the last Signage Committee Meeting regarding tourists not taking note of the signage located at the Elphinstone Pocket Road/Abergowrie intersection and getting lost at the top of Abergowrie.

Transport and Main Road to investigate.

Discussions concluded that no amount of signage can prevent these problems. Robert Lyon suggested yellow line marking on Highway 1. Not considered viable or cost effective.

ACTION: Matter closed.

- 3.16 Dr Jenna Devietti requested if the "This Not Route 1" sign could be improved as tourists have not taken note of the sign.

Transport and Main Road to investigate.

Denise Elrick advised existing signage was found to be reasonably new and satisfactory for the purpose intended.

ACTION: Matter closed.

- 3.17 Steve Marbelli advised concerns raised by the farming community regarding the new wide load regulations 14 month trial.

Mayor Rodger Bow to contact Transport and Main Roads compliance officer to organise a separate meeting with Canegrowers to discuss the matter further Refer Doc # 15/01514 [Item 4 – Outwards Correspondence].

As Mayor Rodger Bow was not in attendance no update was available.

ACTION: To be carried.

- 3.18 *Mr Schiappadori has been in for discussions with Council. Mr Schiappadori agrees that some signage is on the road reserve.*

Robert Giuliano (ECTO) to organise a meeting with Transport and Main Roads. Robert Giuliano also advised that Jeff Aitchison has some illegal signage in this area.

ACTION: *To be carried.*

4. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Outward Correspondence

- Transport and Main Roads (James Graham) – Excess dimensional vehicles on roads. Doc # 15/01514.
- Transport and Main Roads (Nicole Smart) – Letter from Quabba Brothers re Halifax Road/Bruce Highway Intersection. Doc # 15/02500.

Incoming Correspondence

- Internal email from Town Planning in relation to discussions between Mr Schiappadori and Council.

RESOLUTION: *That the Correspondence report be accepted as read.*

Moved by: Mr Ricky Quabba

Seconded by: Mr. Robert Lyon

5. **GENERAL BUSINESS**

- 5.1 *Mr Rick Quabba raised concerns with regards to the intersection of Gangemi's Road onto Hawkins Creek Road and is requesting extra line marking at the intersection to improve safety.*

Action: *Robert Giuliano (ECTO) to discuss matter with Dr Jenna Devietti (Works Engineer) and Design to scope possible fix with linemarking.*

- 5.2 *Robert Lyons raised concerns with regard to traffic especially trucks racing the traffic lights on the change. Also traffic turning into the service station is slowing the traffic flow down as well.*

Action *Mr Geoff Boremann (QPS) advises that this is a traffic enforcement issue and will follow up with extra surveillance.*

6. **NEXT MEETING**

The next HRSAC Meeting is scheduled at 10:30am on Wednesday, 3 June 2015, in the Council Chambers

7. **CLOSURE** Meeting closed at: 11.20am.


Robert Giuliano
ACTING CHAIRPERSON