

# ***HINCHINBROOK ROAD SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE***

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## MINUTES OF HINCHINBROOK ROAD SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 3 OCTOBER 2012

Meeting Opened: 10:30am on Wednesday, 3 October 2012.

### **1. ATTENDANCE**

Present were Mayor Rodger Bow (Chairperson), Mr Jeff Aitchinson (Hinchinbrook Traffic Control – HTC), Ms Alison Barlow (Department of Transport & Main Roads – DTMR), Mr Geoff Bormann (Queensland Police Service), Mr Laurie Black (Transnorth), Mr Rick Butler (Stone River Bus Service), Dr Jenna Devietti (Acting Works Engineer – A/WE), Mr Robert Giuliano (Hinchinbrook Shire Council - HSC), Cr Patrick Lynch (Hinchinbrook Shire Council), Mr Jason MacPherson (Department of Transport and Main Roads – DTMR), Mr Rick Quabba (Queensland Mechanical Cane Harvesting Association – QMCHA), Mr Frank Russo (Hinchinbrook Chamber of Commerce Industry & Tourism – HCCI&T), Mr Gerry Southward (Department of Transport & Main Roads - DTMR), Mr Paul Steine (Canegrowers), Mr Lenny Toscano (Australia Post), Ms Sue Sheahan (Hinchinbrook Shire Council - HSC – Acting/Secretary).

### **APOLOGIES**

An apology for non-attendance was received from: Mr Luigi Cantoni Australian Pensioners & Superannuants League – AP&SL), Hon Mr Andrew Cripps (MP Hinchinbrook), Mr Frank Martino (Transnorth), Mr Don Oswin (Sucrogen Cane Supply and Transport).

### **2. CONFIRM MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING OF 1<sup>st</sup> August 2012**

Meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2012, be approved as a correct record of proceedings.

Moved by: Mr Rick Butler and Seconded by: Mr Paul Steine.

### **3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES – AUGUST 2012**

- 3.1 Mr Rick Butler (SRBS) further discussed the matter of school buses which use flashing lights to alert drivers to 40km speed requirement in school bus pick-up zones in rural areas. [Item 3.1]

*RESPONSE: HRSAC correspondence was forwarded to Accreditation and Licensing on 15 March 2012. Response from NSW Transport Centre for Road Safety was received by HRSAC on 15 May 2012 – Please refer to Item 4 – Correspondence: Letter from NSW Transport Centre for Road Safety and offer from Ms Alison Barlow (DTMR) offer to undertake further review and inform HRSAC at next Meeting scheduled for December 2012, of appropriate department/ person, so HRSAC can contact..*

*Dr Jenna Devietti (A/WE) explained that school safety zone timings are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Transport and Main Roads. Mr Jerry Southward (DTMR) provided additional information regarding DTMR's standard practice relating to school safety zones and that as a rule flashing lights are only approved where campuses cross roads.*

*Meeting held further discussions and at the close of discussions agreed to treat the matter as complete with no further action being required.*

**ACTION:** *No further action required, matter to be treated as complete.*

- 3.2 Road Safety Implementation Plan has not been reviewed since October 2010. Road Safety Implementation Plan attached for review. [#12/01769] [Item 3.2].

**RESPONSE:** *Road Safety Implementation Plan distributed to HRSAC Members.*

*No amendments required to the Road Safety Implementation Plan other than to update references to currency periods, and changes to executive committee members and Chairperson, Mayor Rodger Bow.*

**ACTION:** *Ms Alison Barlow (DTMR) to action above mentioned amendments to 2012/2013 Safety Implementation Plan.*

- 3.3 Mr Paul Steine (Canegrowers) requested Council investigate the size of car parking bays in Ingham town, as Mr Steine believed they were not uniform. [Item 3.3]

*RESPONSE: Mr Paul Stein (Canegrowers) expressed concerns with the size of various car parks within the Hinchinbrook Shire.*

*ACTION: Mr Paul Stein (Canegrowers) to provide exact location/s of the parking areas of concern in writing to HRSAC Secretary, Ms Korrily Low, for follow-up by Council's Manager Technical Support, Mr Graham Weston, to conduct an assessment of the concerned areas.*

- 3.4 Mr Don Auld (QPS) informed HRSAC Meeting of the increasing number in pedestrian deaths occurring in the Ingham area after attempting to walk home from hotels at night. HRSAC Meeting further discussed this matter and considered solutions to resolve concerns. [Item 3.4]

*RESPONSE: Mr Geoff Bormann (QPS) informed HRSAC Meeting that a QPS officer has been assigned to the Designated Driver Program*

*Queensland Police – Ingham have approached local establishments with the Designated Driver Program being well received by the Proprietors of the Hotels. Unfortunately to date very few patrons have taken advantage of this Program. QPS will continue to promote the Program encouraging patrons to register their interest.*

*Council forwarded correspondence to DTMR requesting consideration be given to the speed limit on the Bruce Highway from the Townsville Road / McIlwraith Street intersection north along Herbert Street to the Cartwright Street lights being reduced to 50 km/hr.*

*Prior to DTMR forwarding their written response to Council's request for a reduction in the speed limit on the Bruce Highway from the Townsville Road / McIlwraith Street intersection north along Herbert Street to the Cartwright Street lights, DTMR to monitor speed limits in this area and including the central business district [CBD] of Ingham and report findings to HRSAC.*

*DTMR to also undertake a survey of the concerned area, as part of their assessment to the above request, prior to making any decision.*

*DTMR representatives informed meeting of current restructuring of DTMR has restricted actioning above assessment.*

*ACTION: DTMR to follow-up and advise outcome at future HRSAC Meeting.*

- 3.5 Mr Robert Lyons (NQBE) raised safety concerns with the low dip located on a sweeping corner along Abergowrie Road between rural road number 2815 and 3026 on the inside lane travelling towards Abergowrie which could cause an accident if not repaired. [Item 3.5]

*RESPONSE: Works Request No 11873 logged.*

*DTMR requested a report be compiled by Council including proposal to upgrade to the road. A/IE to contact Council's RMPC Supervisor and organise completion of the report.*

*Dr Jenna Devietti (A/WE) advised that an investigation was being undertaken however further advice regarding the safety concerns was required from Mr Robert Lyons (NQBE).*

*ACTION: Mr Robert Lyons to further discuss with Dr Jenna Devietti. No further action required by HRSAC, matter to be treated as completed.*

- 3.6 Pedestrian Safety in Hinchinbrook Shire – Discussion by Alison Barlow (DTMR). DTMR endeavouring to alert pedestrians of the safety risks when walking on roads and footpaths – particularly keeping the elderly in mind. DTMR currently in the process of organising pamphlets and other advertising material stating the risks and informing pedestrians on what they can do to stay safe on the roads and footpaths. [Item 3.6]

*RESPONSE: Pedestrian brochures distributed by Ms Alison Barlow (DTMR).*

*ACTION: No further action required, matter to be treated as completed.*

- 3.7 Mr Lenny Toscano (Australia Post) raised concerns with the new pedestrian walkway in Rotary Park.

On Herbert Street opposite the former "Barra Motors Building" the walkway finishes inline with a parking bay, which makes it difficult for mothers with prams or disabled members of the public to manoeuvre onto the road if there are vehicles parked in the parking bays. Mr Toscano (Australia Post) suggested that one parking bay be removed and either side of that parking bay be marked as disabled to allow room for pedestrians to access the walkway with more ease. [Item 3.7].

*RESPONSE: Dr Jenna Devietti (A/WE), presented drawings of two proposals issued by Council's Technical Support:-*

*1. Remove the parking bay in front of the access and install two disability parking bays*

each side of the access making the entrance 1.5 m wide; and

2. Remove the parking bay in front of the access and install one disability parking bay and one standard parking bay.

HRSAC Members agreed with proposal two.

HRSAC Secretary forwarded correspondence to Council requesting consideration to the removal of the parking bay in front of the access to Rotary Park, on Herbert Street opposite former "Barra Motors Building", and installing one disability parking bay on one side and one standard parking bay.

On receipt of Council response, matter to be finalised internally by Council.

**ACTION:** No further action required, matter to be treated as completed.

- 3.8 Mr Donald Oswin (CS&TD) informed HRSAC Meeting of the serious visibility concerns at the southbound cane train lights in Herbert Street. Visibility obstruction is occurring when trucks and large campervans / trailers are parking in the parking bays and preventing the oncoming traffic to see the lights. Unfortunately, boom gates will not be installed for the cane season in 2012 to reduce the risk to motorists. [Item 3.9]

**RESPONSE:** Dr Jenna Devietti (A/WE) presented possible solutions following discussions with Sucrogen representatives.

Due to the proposed costs associated with rectifying the visibility concerns, Sucrogen advised that its preference is to install boom gates.

Sucrogen is in the process of finalising draft for DTMR approval.

Dr Jenna Devietti also confirmed that option of installing new signage is being considered by Council.

**ACTION:** No further action required, matter to be treated as completed.

- 3.9 Mr Robert Giuliano (HSC) advised that the trains are currently travelling past Gilroy Santa Maria College at 3:00pm when school is finishing, causing problems with children being picked up by cars and buses. There is also insufficient time between trains travelling past the school. [Item 5.2].

Mr Frank Martino (Transnorth) requests further discussion be had regarding cane trains causing unnecessary congestion to bus services and parents collecting students from schools and not being limited solely to the Gilroy area.

In Mr Frank Martino's absence, Transnorth representative Laurie Black to provide further detail regarding this matter.

**RESPONSE:** Letter forwarded to Sucrogen – copy included with Inwards Correspondence Item 4.

Meeting planned for 4 October 2012, where Transnorth concerns are to be raised.

**ACTION:** Outcome from 4 October 2012 Meeting to be presented at next HRSAC Meeting.

- 3.10 Mr Rick Quabba (QMCHA) advised that since the new pedestrian lights have been implemented, some pedestrians have been pressing the button but not waiting for the green light and just walking across causing traffic to stop for no pedestrians crossing. [Item 5.4]

**RESPONSE:** Rick Quabba and Mayor both confirmed experiences with traffic lights and pedestrian lights both being red at the pedestrian crossing on the southern side opposite Australia Post.

Mr Gerry Southward (DTMR) advised that DTMR had inspected times set for traffic light changes and will again undertake a review after HRSAC Meeting.

DTMR to prepare a media release to be included in the Herbert River Express as a reminder to the pedestrians of the proper use of the pedestrian crossings.

Ms Alison Barlow (DTMR) confirmed that DTMR are conducting observational surveys of the pedestrian crossings and will present findings at the next HRSAC Meeting.

**ACTION:** Matter to be included as Agenda item for next HRSAC Meeting scheduled for December 2012.

- 3.11 Mr Rick Quabba (QMCHA) expressed concerns with people walking in the dark without high visibility clothing or embellishments. Mr Quabba suggested buying high visibility ribbon or sashes and donating them to various community groups so the public could obtain one for free. [Item 5.5]

**RESPONSE:** Mr Rick Quabba presented various options he had sourced to support above proposal.

HRSAC Meeting considered Mr Rick Quabba proposal to be a good idea which would benefit both motorists and pedestrians and subsequently agreed pursuing options. HRSAC Meeting authorised Mr Rick Quabba to approach the local paper – Herbert River Express to arrange a

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*media release, following further discussions being had with Dr Jenna Devietti (A/WE).*

**ACTION:** *Mr Rick Butler and Dr Jenna Devietti to further discuss prior to Mr Rick Butler presenting information to the Herbert River Express to include as media release in the local paper.*

- 3.12 Mr Don Auld (QPS) advised that the Hon Andrew Cripps phoned Queensland Police regarding his concerns with people speeding along Leichhardt Street, Allingham. [Item 5.7]

**RESPONSE:** *Mr Geoff Bormann (QPS) confirmed Ingham Police have been patrolling area of Leichhardt Street, Allingham.*

*Works request # 12206 has been logged. All signs have been checked by Council's works department and confirm that all signs are correct and visible.*

**ACTION:** *No further action required, matter to be treated as completed.*

#### 4. CORRESPONDENCE

##### Outward Correspondence

- Mr John Tantalo [QPS] – Welcoming Mr John Tantalo to the HRSAC. [#12/16218].
- Sucrogen – Review of Sucrogen timetable for cane trains travelling adjacent Gilroy Santa Maria College. [#12/19505].
- HSC – HRSAC request to change existing carpark layout at Rotary Park, Herbert Street. [#12/20438].

##### Incoming Correspondence

- Margaret Prendergast [NSW Transport Centre for Road Safety] – Crash data demonstrating effectiveness of flashing lights on school buses in NSW from 1993 to 2004. [#12/09348]

**ACTION:-** *HRSAC Meeting further discussed matter and agreed to accept Ms Alison Barlow offer to undertake further review and inform HRSAC at next Meeting scheduled for December 2012, of appropriate department/ person, so HRSAC can contact.*

- Mr John Tantalo [QPS] – Thanking HRSAC for welcoming him to the Committee. [#12/16266].
- Department of Transport and Main Roads – Pedestrian Safety for Older Adults brochure. [#12/18847].
- Alison Barlow [DTMR] – Hinchinbrook Shire Council crash data 2005 – 2009. [#12/19568].

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

Moved by: Mr Rick Butler

Seconded by: Mr Rick Quabba.

#### 5. GENERAL BUSINESS

- 5.1 Mr Frank Martino (Transnorth) raised concerns with placement of traffic signs causing obstruction to buses using the designated bus zones.

In Mr Frank Martino's absence, Transnorth representative Laurie Black to provide further detail regarding this matter.

**RESPONSE:** *Dr Jenna Devietti (A/WE) confirmed measures being taken to address concerns.*

**ACTION:** *No further action required, matter to be treated as completed.*

- 5.2 Mr Frank Martino (Transnorth) raised concerns with the reoccurrence of loose stones from road works frequently causing damage to buses and considered a road safety concern.

In Mr Frank Martino's absence, Transnorth representative Laurie Black to provide further detail regarding this matter.

**RESPONSE:** *Dr Jenna Devietti (A/WE) suggested any future similar concerns be logged with Council's Project Manager, AECOM, hotline. Major flood damage works are being undertaken throughout Hinchinbrook Shire and Council in conjunction with its Project Manager, are doing utmost to minimise disruptions to the community.*

**ACTION:** *No further action required, matter to be treated as completed.*

- 5.3 Mr Lenny Toscano (Australia Post) requested clarification as to why double lines at IGA, Cartwright Street, Ingham, could not be installed to prevent motorists from performing a "U" turn in front of The Paper Shop and potentially causing an accident.

**RESPONSE:** *HRSAC Meeting discussed concerns and agreed in principle however, agreed that there was no good alternative, as matter had previously been raised and unresolved.*

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*ACTION: DTMR to revisit and provide advice at next HRSAC Meeting scheduled for December 2012.*

- 5.4 Concerns with the timing of lights at Cartwright Street intersection, near the Shell Service Station, was again raised.

*ACTION: DTMR to review timing set for Cartwright Street traffic lights.*

- 5.5 Mr Rick Butler reported repair works to kerbing and channelling required in the vicinity of bus stops at the Ingham State Primary School and Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School, as well as potholes requiring maintenance.

*ACTION: Works Request for the above to be logged.*

- 5.6 Mr Paul Steine (Canegrowers) requested consideration be given to the removal of parking bays in front of Centrelink, Herbert Street, Ingham.

*RESPONSE: Matter previously addressed by HRSAC.*

*Dr Jenna Devietti confirmed Council scheduled to undertake a review of parking bays in next twelve months.*

*ACTION: No further action required, matter to be treated as completed.*

- 5.7 Mr Paul Steine (Canegrowers) raised concerns with the timing of the temporary stop lights installed at roadworks near the Ingham Showgrounds.

*RESPONSE: No further action to be taken, lights considered to be appropriate, however Dr Jenna Devietti offered to follow-up with AECOM.*

*ACTION: Dr Jenna Devietti to follow-up with AECOM. No further action required, matter to be treated as completed.*

- 5.8 Mr Paul Steine (Canegrowers) raised concerns with the train crossings and temporary advanced signage speed limits at Tokalon Road, and Burnside Road.

*RESPONSE: Review of signage has been undertaken at which time it was established that signage is to the Manual of Uniform and Traffic Control Devices.*

*ACTION: No further action required, matter to be treated as completed.*

- 5.9 Mayor Rodger Bow reported that the street light over the Lannercost Street pedestrian crossing, near Coles, is not working.

*ACTION: Repair request to be logged with relevant department.*

- 5.10 Mr Geoff Bormann (QPS) advised HRSAC Meeting of temporary changes to the issuing of driver licences by Ingham Police now being 8:00am to 12:00noon and 1:00pm to 3:15pm each Tuesday and Thursday. Temporary changes will be in place until alternative arrangements are made.

*RESPONSE: Mr Rick Butler also mentioned a recent experience with a Haulout Driver not being able to make a booking at Ingham Police for appropriate driver licence for a period of six weeks. This being an unacceptable timeframe considering closing of season date nearing and urgency of request.*

*ACTION: HRSAC Meeting noted.*

## 6. NEXT MEETING

The next HRSAC Meeting is scheduled at 10:30am on Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> December 2012, at Council Chambers, with Christmas luncheon to follow.

## 7. CLOSURE Meeting closed at 11:50am.



Cr Rodger Bow  
CHAIRPERSON