

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


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## MINUTES OF HINCHINBROOK ROAD SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 5 DECEMBER 2012

Meeting Opened: 10:30am on Wednesday, 5 December 2012.

### **1. ATTENDANCE**



Present were Mr Jeff Aitchinson (Hinchinbrook Traffic Control - HTC), Ms Alison Barlow (Department of Transport & Main Roads - DTMR), Mr Geoff Bormann (Queensland Police Service), 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 - HRSAC Acting Chairperson), Mr Luigi Cantoni Australian Pensioners & Superannuants League - AP&SL), Mr Frank Martino (Transnorth), Barry Young (Queensland Rail - QR), John Tantalo (Queensland Police Services - QPS), Ms Kirrily Low (Hinchinbrook Shire Council - HSC -Secretary).

### **APOLOGIES**

An apology for non-attendance was received from: Hon Mr Andrew Cripps (MP Hinchinbrook), Mr Don Auld (Queensland Police Service - QPS), Mayor Rodger Bow (Hinchinbrook Shire Council - HRSAC Chairperson), Mr Patrick Brown (Queensland Ambulance Service - QAS), and Mr Peter Luke (Sucrogen).

### **2. CONFIRM MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING OF 3 October 2012**

Minutes of meeting held on 3 October 2012, be approved as a correct record of proceedings.

Moved by: Mr Robert Giuliano (HSC) and Seconded by: Mr Paul Steine (Canegrowers)

### **3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES - OCTOBER 2012**

- 3.1 Road Safety Implementation Plan has not been reviewed since October 2010. Road Safety Implementation Plan attached for review. [#12/01769] [Item 3.1].

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

*No amendments were 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.*

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

*Ms Alison Barlow (DTMR and Mr Gerry Southward (DTMR) presented updated crash data and suggested actions and comments for inclusion on the new plan, via PowerPoint presentation.*

**ACTION:** HRSAC members accepted changes. Safety Implementation Plan to be presented at the next Council General Meeting.

- 3.2 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 3.2]

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

*Mr Paul Steine (Canegrowers) to provide exact location/s of the parking areas of concern by email to HRSAC Secretary, Ms Kirrily Low.*

**ACTION:** HRSAC Secretary, Ms Kirrily Low, to present copy of Mr Paul Stein's (Canegrowers) email to Council's Manager Technical Support, Mr Graham Weston, for assessment of the areas of concern areas to be undertaken by Council's Technical Support.



- 3.3 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 3.3]

**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 response received by Council on 26 November 2012, advising that DTMR will consider implementing a 50 km/hr zone through the Ingham CBD, however, it will be necessary to conduct a speed review to determine if this change is warranted.

**ACTION:** DTMR have placed a speed review of this area in its annual program, which will cover the Bruce Highway (extending from McIlwraith Street to Lannercost Street), as well as Lannercost Street/Bruce Highway extending from Neilsen Street to Cartwright Street. Timing of this review will depend on availability of funding and resources.

- 3.4 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.

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 Mr Laurie Black to provide further detail regarding this matter. [Item 3.4].

**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.

Dr Jenna Devietti- A/WE, presented outcomes from the meeting held on 4 October 2012.

Concerns raised were discussed with Sucrogen representatives, Council representatives including the Mayor, Bus Company representatives, Gilroy Santa Maria College Principal and Council's Acting Works Engineer, Dr Jenna Devietti, at which time it was resolved that the cane trains will now break for fifteen minutes from 3:00 pm to 3:15 pm.

**ACTION:** HRSAC Secretary, Ms Kिरrily Low, to forward correspondence to Sucrogen thanking them for the successful changes made.

Letter to be forwarded to Sucrogen at the beginning of 2013 cane crushing season as a reminder of the changes.

- 3.5 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 3.5]

**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 February 2013

- 3.6 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 3.6]

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

HRSAC Meeting considered Mr Rick Quabba (QMCHA) proposal to be a good idea which would benefit both motorists and pedestrians and subsequently agreed pursuing options. HRSAC Meeting authorised Mr Rick Quabba (QMCHA) to approach the local paper – Herbert River Express to arrange a media release, following further discussions with Dr Jenna Devietti (A/WE).

**ACTION:** Mr Rick Quabba (QMCHA) and Dr Jenna Devietti (A/WE) to further discuss proposal prior to Mr Rick Quabba (QMCHA) presenting information to the Herbert River Express for consideration as media release in the local paper.

- 3.7 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. [Item 3.7]

**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.

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

**ACTION:** DTMR will continue to monitor. Matter to be closed out.

- 3.8 Concerns with the timing of lights at Cartwright Street intersection, near the Shell Service Station, was again raised. [Item 3.8]

**RESPONSE:** DTMR findings from review of timing set for Cartwright Street traffic lights were presented as follows:-

- These signals are stand alone signals;
- They are not connected to any other traffic signals;
- They operate on a demand system activated as vehicles approach;
- These signals have four phases, A, B, C, D:-
  - A phase – Herbert Street north bound which has a 50 second maximum GREEN time;
  - B phase – Gardiner Street which and has a 20 second maximum GREEN time;
  - C phase – Cartwright Street which also has a 50 second maximum GREEN time;
  - D phase – Herbert Street south bound and has a 50 second maximum GREEN time.

All AMBERS have a 4 second timing and the RED signal varies from 3.4 to 4 seconds. For most phases a maximum wait time would be approximately 104 seconds (1 minute 44 seconds). It would be highly unlikely that a driver would wait the maximum time. This does not take into account when cane trains cross Herbert Street.

**ACTION:** Matter to be closed out.

- 3.9 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. [Item 3.9]

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

Works Request # 12325 logged.

Maintenance work has been undertaken to kerb and channelling and potholes.

Mr Rick Butler (Stone River Bus Service) advised that there were still potholes at the front of the botanical gardens on McIlwraith Street and also at the front of Ingham State Primary School.

**ACTION:** Works Request to be logged as original request did not specify the locations adjacent to the Schools.



- 3.10 Mayor Rodger Bow reported that the street light over the Lannercost Street pedestrian crossing, near Coles, is not working. [Item 3.10]

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

**ACTION:** *Repair request has been logged with the Department of Transport and Main Roads for attention.*

#### 4. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Outward Correspondence

Nil.

Incoming Correspondence

- Allison Barlow [Department of Transport and Main Roads] – Flashing 40 km speed zone on rural buses. [#12/21668]

**RESPONSE:** *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 5 December 2012, of appropriate department/ person, so HRSAC can contact.*

*Ms Alison Barlow (DTMR) presented details for appropriate departments to allow HRSAC to contact. Ms Barlow advised that if this matter is firstly referred to the two bus industry organisations in Queensland, and they support the initiative, there is a greater chance of success in having this introduced into legislation in Queensland. Both are lobby groups with access to the decision makers within the Department of Transport and Main Roads. As almost all school bus operators are a member of one of two organisations in Queensland, Ms Barlow suggested that both Council (on behalf of the Hinchinbrook Road Safety Advisory Committee members) and the bus operators lobbying the organisation is at present the best way to progress Mr Rick Butler's (Stone River Bus Service) suggestion.*

**ACTION:** *HRSAC Secretary, Ms Kिरily Low, to forward correspondence to the Queensland Bus Industry Council and put forward suggestion of implementing flashing 40 km speed zone on rural buses.*

- Allison Barlow [Department of Transport and Main Roads] – Hinchinbrook Road Safety Implementation Plan and Updated Crash Data with suggested actions and comments for inclusion in discussions on the new plan – Matter addressed with Item 3.1

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

Moved by: Mr Robert Giuliano (HSC)

Seconded by: Mr Robert Lyons (NQBE)

#### 5. **GENERAL BUSINESS**

- 5.1 Distribution of proposed 2013 HRSAC Meeting dates for discussion and adoption.

**RESPONSE:** *2013 HRSAC Meeting Dates accepted by the HRSAC members.*

- 5.2 Routine Maintenance Performance Contract [RMPC] Contract 233\_1113 – Recommended changes to the intersection of Macrossan Street and Farrell Drive / Alma Street in Halifax: Information to be presented by Jenna Devietti [A/WE].

**RESPONSE:** *Dr Jenna Devietti (A/WE) advised that the gazettal change works are currently in the design phase. Signage is to be undertaken as part of the Road Maintenance Performance Contract [RMPC] at a later date.*

- 5.3 Mr Paul Steine requesting clarification on the correct action to take regarding road closure signs, in particular during flooding.

**RESPONSE:** *Mr Geoff Bormann (QPS) confirmed that driving through water is only allowed if the driver is permitted to do so. Permits are usually only issued to emergency services for example Ergon Energy.*

*DTMR advised that gaining access through a road block is allowed if the Driver can present a licence to prove his/her residence is between the road block and the problem area.*

*DTMR advised that all information regarding the above can be found on their website.*



- 5.4 Mr Robert Lyon (NQBE) requested a notice be published to remind parents of the safety of their children riding on ATV's along headlands during the school holidays.
- RESPONSE:** *Dr Jenna Devietti (A/WE) confirmed that she would investigate the best way to distribute a general keep safe message over the school holidays as the HRSAC is a Road Safety Advisory Committee, the powers which HRSAC has jurisdiction within private properties is required to be reviewed.*
- ACTION:** *Dr Jenna Devietti (A/WE) to investigate media options eg Hinchinbrook Happenings, Mayor's Column in the Herbert River Express.*
- 5.5 Mr Luigi Cantoni (AP & SL) advised that disability seniors are concerned that there is insufficient disability parking in the main street of Ingham in particular Lannercost Street and that people without a disability are parking in the few disability parking bays available.
- RESPONSE:** *Dr Jenna Devietti (A/WE) advised Mr Luigi Cantoni (AP & SL) that Council will need specific areas where they would like the disability parking bays as some areas are unsuitable for the parking bays due to the bays needing ramps etc installed onto the footpath and this may be the reason for the lack of bays in that part of town.*
- ACTION:** *Mr Luigi Cantoni (AP & SL) to provide exact location/s the seniors would like new disability parking bays.*
- Dr Jenna Devietti (A/WE) to log a Health Request regarding people parking in the disability bays and policing this issue.*
- Dr Jenna Devietti (A/WE) to discuss options of more disability parking bays with Council's Manager Technical Support, Graham Weston, on receipt of exact location from Mr Cantoni.*
- 5.6 Mr Luigi Cantoni (AP & SL) raised concerns with the danger of people on Mobility Scooters driving on the road rather than on the side of the road.
- RESPONSE:** *Mr Geoff Bormann (QPS) advised that this is an ongoing and long standing concern and has been difficult to manage.*
- ACTION:** *Queensland Police Service will continue to monitor.*
- Matter to be closed out.*
- 5.7 Ms Alison Barlow (DTMR) presented an image of a sign painted on the ground to be used in a high pedestrian and Mobility Scooter area to aware pedestrians and motorists of each other and suggested that this might be useful to use within the Hinchinbrook Shire.
- RESPONSE:** *HRSAC members agreed this would be a good idea.*
- ACTION:** *Ms Alison Barlow (DTMR) to find out more information on areas where the sign has been used and under what legislation.*
- 5.8 Mr John Tantalo (QPS) acknowledged Sucrogen for the improvement works on the existing level crossing at the intersection of Musgrave Street and River Avenue, Halifax.
- RESPONSE:** *HRSAC agreed that the works are an improvement and agreed that correspondence should be forwarded to Sucrogen officially acknowledging them.*
- ACTION:** *HRSAC Secretary, Ms Kirrily Low, to action correspondence to Sucrogen.*
- 5.9 Mr Barry Young (QR) introduced himself to the HRSAC and advised that due to illness he had been unable to attend previous meetings.
- RESPONSE:** *HRSAC members welcomed Mr Barry Young (QR) to the committee.*
- 5.10 Cr Patrick Lynch (HSC) on behalf of Mayor Rodger Bow, thanked the HRSAC for the year and wished all a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

6. **NEXT MEETING**

The next HRSAC Meeting is scheduled at 10:30am on Wednesday, 6 February 2013, at Council Chambers.

7. **CLOSURE**

Meeting closed at 12:17pm

Mr Lenny Toscano  
**ACTING CHAIRPERSON**

