Port Stephens
Local Traffic Committee Minutes
Meeting held on Tuesday 5th March 2019, at 9.32am

Present:
Cr Steve Tucker, Cr Giacomo Arnott representing Tim Crakanthorp MP, Snr Const Marg Bernard – NSW Police, John Carey – Roads and Maritime Services, John Meldrum – Hunter Valley Buses, Joe Gleeson (Chairperson), Lisa Lovegrove – Port Stephens Council

Apologies:
Mayor Ryan Palmer, Kate Washington MP, Mal Britt – Busways, Anthony Biscan – Port Stephens Coaches, Andrew Behrens – Port Stephens Council

A. Business arising from previous meeting

B. Listed matters

11_03/19 Thurlow Avenue, Nelson Bay - Request for parking restrictions

12_03/19 Trevally Street, Nelson Bay - Request for a drop-off zone at Tomaree Hospital

13_03/19 Marine Drive, Fingal Bay - Request for marking of parking spaces

14_03/19 Salamander Way, Salamander Bay - Request for a pedestrian facility at the bus stops at the Aquatic Centre

C. General business

604_03/19 Lemon Tree Passage Road, Salt Ash – Notification of proposed roadworks

605_03/19 King Albert Avenue, Tanilba Bay – Traffic and safety concerns at Tanilba Bay Public School

606_03/19 Watt Street, Raymond Terrace – Request for parking restrictions

607_03/19 Newline Road, Raymond Terrace – Request to relocate speed zone changes
B. Listed Matters

Item: 11_03/19

Thurlow Avenue, Nelson Bay - Request for parking restrictions

Requested by: A resident
File: 19/24321 & 248918

Background:

A Thurlow Avenue resident states: "Increased traffic movement and parking of vehicles and recreational vessels on each side of the road carriageway has increased significantly in recent times, especially over the holiday peak period. The carriageway width is approximately 10.5 metres with a pavement width of 9.5 metres. Accordingly, with the parking lanes occupied, through-traffic is confined to one central lane. The issue of parking of vehicles, including unattended recreational vessels, in proximity to the curved section of the Avenue adjacent to properties No's. 37-39 Thurlow Ave, is considered by observation and personal vehicle manoeuvring to be a hazard, unsafe and unacceptable particularly in respect of the inadequate sight distance created by the parked vehicles on the curve whilst driving in either direction. The erection of 'No stopping' signs in this location, in my view, is considered an absolute necessity for ongoing safety reasons."

Comment:

A pedestrian connection to the Bridle Path and Dutchies Beach exists between house numbers 48 and 50 on the northern side of Thurlow Avenue. Road widths in this location vary between 9 and 9.5 metres.

Considering the width of the road and the proximity of the pedestrian connection, removal of parking is supported in this location. However, the installation of Double Barrier Line is suggested to remove the lane width availability for parking and enhancing delineation without installing a number of signs in the vicinity of residential driveways.

Legislation, Standards, Guidelines and Delegation:

NSW Road Rules – Rule 169 – No stopping on a road with a yellow edge line
Rule 132 - Keeping to the left of the centre of a road or the dividing line
RMS Delineation Manual – Section 13
Traffic control devices installed under Part 5.3 Div. 2 Road Transport Act 2013

Discussion:

Committee members discussed whether drivers would be aware of the requirement to not park within 3m of a dividing, barrier line and whether additional restrictions would be needed. Committee members agreed to include a recommendation for installation of ‘C3’ kerbside line to reinforce the parking restrictions on the bend.
Committee’s recommendation:

Install Double Barrier line for a distance of 38 metres between property 35/37 and 39/39A Thurlow Avenue, Nelson Bay and ‘C3’ yellow, ‘No Stopping’ line, as shown on the attached sketch, Annexure A.

Support for the recommendation:

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Item: 12_03/19

Trevally Street, Nelson Bay - Request for a drop-off zone at Tomaree Hospital

Requested by: Hunter New England Health
File: 19/24336

Background:

The Hunter New England Local Health District Tomaree site is currently undergoing a redevelopment. A new car park has been constructed, however it is a long way for those accessing our services that are disabled or require assistance accessing the Medical Centre on Trevally Street.

A request is made to provide a temporary signage change to "Drop off Zone" immediately out the front of the Medical Centre to support the community.

Comment:

A temporary change of restrictions is supported in Trevally Street, however a return to unrestricted parking must occur following the completion of the car park.

Legislation, Standards, Guidelines and Delegation:

NSW Road Rules – Rule 168 – No parking signs
RMS signs database – R5-40
Traffic control devices installed under Part 5.3 Div. 2 Road Transport Act 2013

Committee’s recommendation:

Convert 2 parking spaces from Unrestricted Parking to 'No Parking', immediately north of the Bus Zone on the eastern side of Trevally Street, Nelson Bay at the Tomaree Medical Centre, as shown on the attached sketch, Annexure A.

Support for the recommendation:

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Item: 13_03/19

Marine Drive, Fingal Bay - Request for marking of parking spaces

Requested by: A resident
File: 249074-2019

Background:

For the past few years I have been taking note of the congestion and potential for an accident on the corner of Marine Drive and Rocky Point Road at Fingal Bay. This area is of high use for both locals and tourist, who either visit our beautiful beach or sporting facilities. I would like to ask if there has been any recent discussion on improving this area with a footpath and additional parking spaces? Secondly the parking at the south end of Marine Drive, where Fingal beach access is located. This area is in high use and I find many drivers have a different interpretation of the recommend space needed between cars. I would like to ask if there has been any recent discussion on line marking parking spaces?

Comment:

A Shared Path is included in Councils Pathways Plan for the southern side of Rocky Point Road and continuing along the length of Farm Road, a pedestrian pathway is also proposed for the norther side of Rocky Point Road.
Council is not aware of any additional parking (off road) to be made available at this location. A number of road side car parking spaces are provided (both angle and parallel) for visitors to the beach, in addition to a dedicated car park facility.
A request for re marking of angle parking spaces will be forwarded to Council's Maintenance Section for action.
The Inspection Committee support the installation of Yellow, C3, kerbside line on Marine Drive and 10 on Rocky Point Road on both sides of the intersection.

Legislation, Standards, Guidelines and Delegation:

NSW Road Rules – Rule 169 – No stopping on a road with a yellow edge line
RMS Delineation Manual – Section 13
Traffic control devices installed under Part 5.3 Div. 2 Road Transport Act 2013

Discussion:

Cr Tucker noted that the provision of additional pathways and parking spaces are not Traffic Committee matters and should be referred to Council’s Civil Assets section for consideration.

Committee’s recommendation:

Install yellow, C3 kerbside line at the intersection of Rocky Point Road and Marine Drive Fingal Bay, as shown on the attached sketch, Annexure A.
**Support for the recommendation:**

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Item: 14_03/19

Salamander Way, Salamander Bay - Request for a pedestrian facility at the bus stops at the aquatic centre

Requested by: A resident
File: 249860-2019

Background:
A local resident uses the bus to travel to and from the pool and has great difficulty safely crossing the road.

Comment:
The installation of a pedestrian refuge is supported in this location. The Inspection Committee questioned whether the length of the right turn lane at Leisure Drive is necessary as it could possibly be shortened to allow for a slightly larger painted median, which could allow a pedestrian refuge to be constructed on the existing hatched area.

Legislation, Standards, Guidelines and Delegation:
Traffic control devices installed under Part 5.3 Div. 2 Road Transport Act 2013

Discussion:
Traffic Committee members noted comments from Port Stephens Coaches that the right turn lane is heavily used at peak times and careful consideration is required before it is shortened.

Committee’s recommendation:
Committee members recommended that Council officers develop concept plans and apply for funding through the Active Transport or similar program.

Support for the recommendation:

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C. General Business

Item: 604_03/19

Lemon Tree Passage Road, Salt Ash – Notification of proposed roadworks

Requested by: Cr Tucker
File:
Background:

Cr Tucker tabled a leaflet that was distributed to residents in the Tilligerry area. The leaflet is from RMS and is requesting community feedback on proposed road improvement works at the Nelson Bay Road/Lemon Tree Passage Road roundabout.

Discussion:

Committee members noted that feedback is requested by 18th March 2019

Item: 605_03/19

King Albert Avenue, Tanilba Bay – Traffic and safety concerns at Tanilba Bay Public School

Requested by: Cr Tucker
File:
Background:

Cr Tucker has received a number of representations from parents and community members regarding traffic and safety concerns around the Tanilba Bay Public School.

Discussion:

Council officers advised that there had also been several approaches to Council on this issue, since the start of the school year. School Infrastructure NSW (SINSW), a new entity within the NSW Department of Education, has recently contacted Council requesting referral of any calls for assistance, received by Council, in relation to traffic or pedestrian related matters around schools.

Cr Tucker requested that Council officers contact the relevant authorities to arrange for discussion of options to improve safety and traffic flow around the school.
Item: 606_03/19

Watt Street, Raymond Terrace – Request for parking restrictions

Requested by: Cr Arnott

Background:

Cr Arnott requested investigation of safety concerns regarding the bend in Watt Street, Raymond Terrace, just north of Shearman Avenue. He advised that a local resident had requested parking restrictions to deter vehicles being driven on the wrong side of the road.

Discussion:

This request will be considered as part of the next Local Traffic Committee inspections.

Item: 607_03/19

Newline Road, Raymond Terrace – Request to relocate speed zone changes

Requested by: Cr Arnott

Background:

A local resident contacted Cr Arnott to request that the 60km/h zone be extended on Newline Road, past the Beaton Avenue intersection, in order to improve safety for traffic turning in and out of Beaton Avenue.

Discussion:

The RMS representative advised that a speed zone review of Newline Road had recommended changes to the speed limits including the requested extension of the 60km/h zone. The speed zone review is awaiting final sign-off prior to implementation.
Item: 607_03/19

William Bailey Street, Raymond Terrace – Concern regarding the phasing of the Adelaide Street traffic signals

Requested by: Cr Arnott

File:  
Background:

Cr Arnott attended a crash at the traffic signals on the weekend where a right-turning vehicle collided with a northbound vehicle on Adelaide Street. This type of crash has occurred a number of times recently and Cr Arnott has contacted Roads and Maritime Services to request that the signal phasing be changed.

Discussion:

Roads and Maritime Services has advised that the existing signal phasing is the standard set-up at T-intersections in NSW. However, they are investigating whether it is possible to provide an alternate phasing where the right-turn arrow goes to red prior to going blank to allow the right-turn filtering.

The meeting concluded at 10.15am