
**Port Stephens
Local Transport Forum Minutes**

**Meeting held in the Port Stephens Council Committee room and via Teams on
Tuesday 5th May, 2026 at 9:30am**

Present:

Caitlin Macinante representing Kate Washington MP, Cr Ben Niland, Jamie Smoother - TfNSW, William Ridley – CDC Hunter Valley Buses, Anthony Biscan – Port Stephens Coaches, John Maretich, Andrew Behrens, Anna Brown, Joe Gleeson (Chairperson) - Port Stephens Council

Apologies:

Mayor Leah Anderson, Sen Const Rod Minter – NSW Police, Tim Crakanthorp MP, Busways

A. Matters arising

611_05/25 President Wilson Walk, Tanilba Bay – Request for changes to bus services

01_04/26 Abundance Road, Medowie – Submission of Medowie High School public domain plans

B. Listed matters

05_05/26 Kennington drive, Tomago – Request for ‘No stopping’

06_05/26 Donald Street, Nelson Bay – Request for pedestrian facilities

07_05/26 Soldiers Point Road, Salamander Bay – Request for a pedestrian crossing

A: Matters arising

Item: 611_05/25

President Wilson Walk, Tanilba Bay – Request for changes to bus services

Requested by: Cr Wells

Background:

In May of last year, Cr Wells made enquiry on behalf of Tilligerry residents regarding potential improvements to public transport access at Tanilba Bay. The current public bus routes use Avenue of the Allies and President Wilson Walk to service the town, by-passing the shopping centre on Lemon Tree Passage Road.

The bus operator, CDC, advised Council that diverting existing bus routes to be closer to Coles, does not meet the Outer Metro Planning Guidelines however an alternate possibility would be to investigate additional bus stop locations on the existing routes.

Committee members noted that an additional bus stop on President Wilson Walk would not really address the original request and requested further investigation.

Discussion:

The CDC representative noted that any changes to bus routes that may result in easier access to Coles, would need to be part of a wider network service review. A service review is overdue for the CDC network and it was indicated that CDC would be prepared to begin the process and to work with TfNSW on a network service review – not timeframe has been set in regards to completion of the review.

Item: 01_04/26

Abundance Road, Medowie – Submission of Medowie High School public domain plans

Requested by: NSW Department of Education

File: 457926-2026

Background:

Contractors for the construction of the new high school at Medowie have submitted public domain plans for Council's assessment, as part of a Roads Act application. The plans detail the regulatory signage and linemarkings in Abundance Road and Ferodale Road proposed to be installed as part of the project.

Forum members have now had an opportunity to view the submitted plans in more detail.

Engagement level

Level 1 – Inform

Action: Provide stakeholders with information to assist understanding of the changes and the Local Transport Forum proposal once endorsed

Discussion:

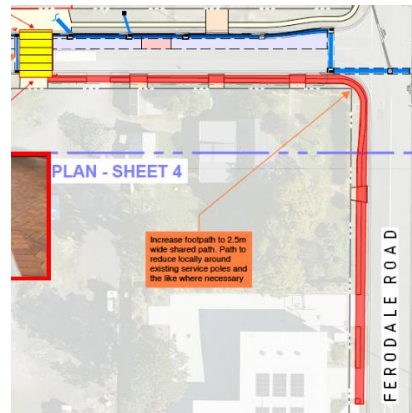
Feedback was received regarding the issues previously raised, as follows:

- 1.2m footpaths are proposed – This is the minimum width allowable and only suitable for areas of low pedestrian demand. Given the need to encourage greater use of micro-mobility to access the new school, a shared path width would be make more sense

We will increase the path from 1.2m wide to a share path of 2.5m wide as requested. The shared path will be from the main school entrance on Abundance Road, north to the intersection, east on Ferodale Road to the end of the new footpath adjacent to the pedestrian refuge. This is shown as red on the attached General Arrangement Plan.

Increasing to a shared path as shown in red on the attached pdf means students walking, on bikes or scooters will be on a shared path from the school entrance near to the bike parking around to the pedestrian refuge on Ferodale Road to join up with the council footpath on the northern side of Ferodale Road that accesses many other areas in Medowie.

As noted on the attached General Arrangement Plan "Increase footpath to 2.5m wide shared path. Path to reduce locally around existing service poles and the like where necessary".



- The wombat crossing proposed indicates kerb ramps to road level and kerb blisters rather than a continuous, at-grade path, to enhance safety and accessibility.

The kerb and gutter on either side of the pedestrian crossing is very flat and we understand the stormwater is near capacity in the area.

To overcome this design constrain it is proposed the wombat crossing is raised as a continuous at grade path crossing between the kerbs as requested. The design intent is shown in the attached General Arrangement Plan.

Eastern side of Abundance Road to have a build out as there is a parking lane, to look as below.

Western side will not have a build out as there is no parking lane, to look as below.



- Need to ensure that lighting is considered and upgraded for the pedestrian crossings as required

Lighting plans are currently with Council for assessment

Cr Niland added the following comments:

- There is a need to maintain access to the doctors surgery driveway at all times for emergency vehicles
- 'No Stopping' signage on Ferodale Road near the Ambulance Station seems to be too close to pedestrian refuge
- The proposed Bus stop on Ferodale Road, near Petrol Station, seems to encroach over the access driveway to the Station

B: Listed matters

Item: 05_05/26

Kennington drive, Tomago – Request for ‘No stopping’

Requested by: A business operator

File: 457926-2026

Background:

A business operator in the Tomago industrial area requests installation of ‘No Stopping’ restrictions to allow large heavy vehicles to be able to safely manoeuvre in and out of the property at 2 Abbot Lane.

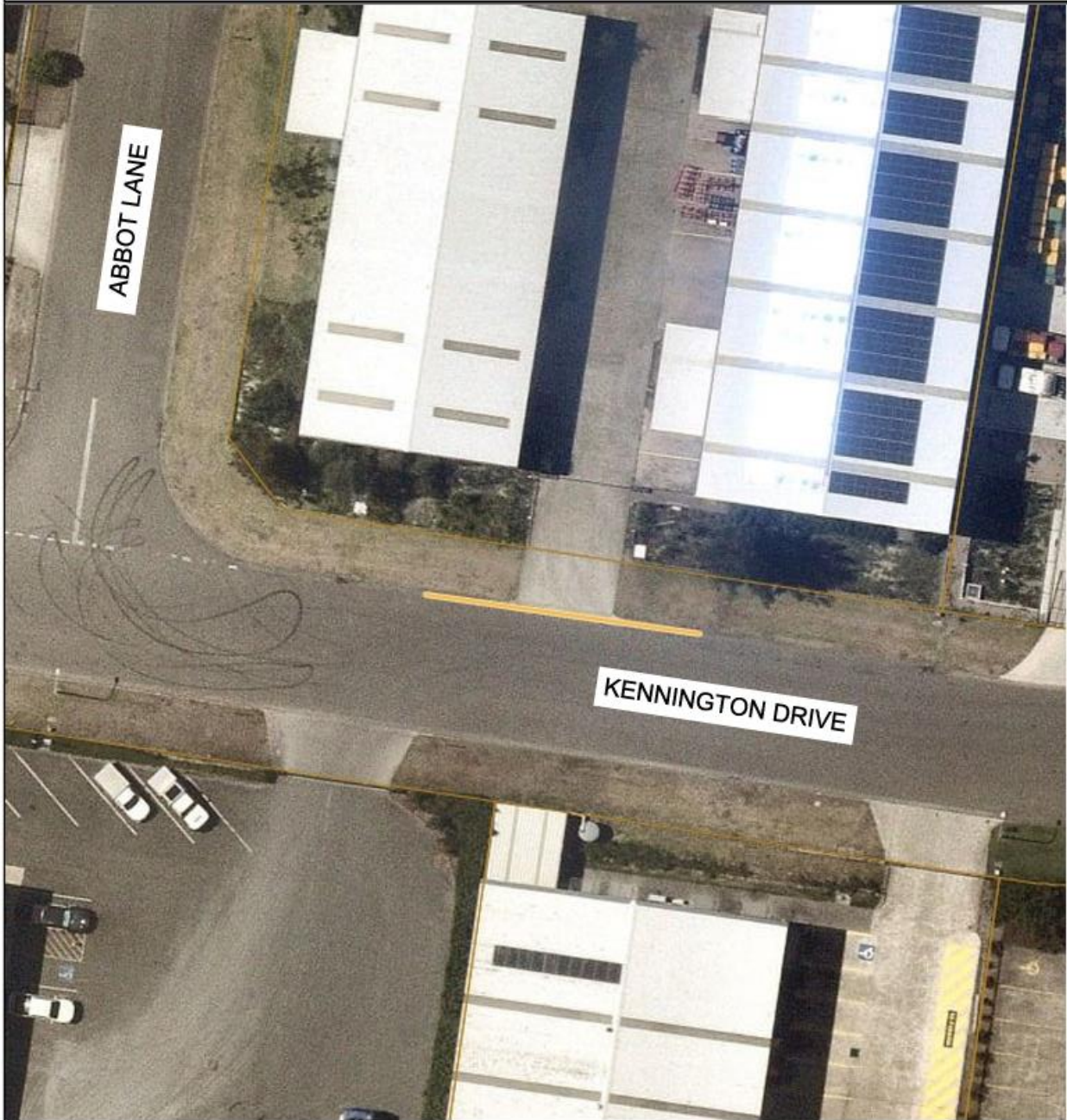
Proposal from the Forum:

Install ‘No Stopping’ restrictions in Kennington Drive, Tomago, as shown on the attached sketch, Annexure A.

Engagement level

Level 1 – Inform

Action: Provide stakeholders with information to assist understanding of the changes and the Local Transport Forum proposal once endorsed



Legend

 = No Stopping

Item: 06_05/26

Donald Street, Nelson Bay – Request for pedestrian facilities

Requested by: A business operator

File: 462351-2026

Background:

Council has received a request to provide pedestrian facilities at the intersection of Donald and Yacaaba Streets, Nelson Bay. The area is heavily used by pedestrians crossing from the car parking areas to access the town centre.

Discussion:

It was noted that this is a busy intersection, with many conflicting traffic and pedestrian movements. It was also noted that this is a relatively low-speed environment and that the intersection is raised.

Forum members noted that crossings on the southern leg of Yacaaba Street and on the eastern leg of Donald Street would not impact bus routes

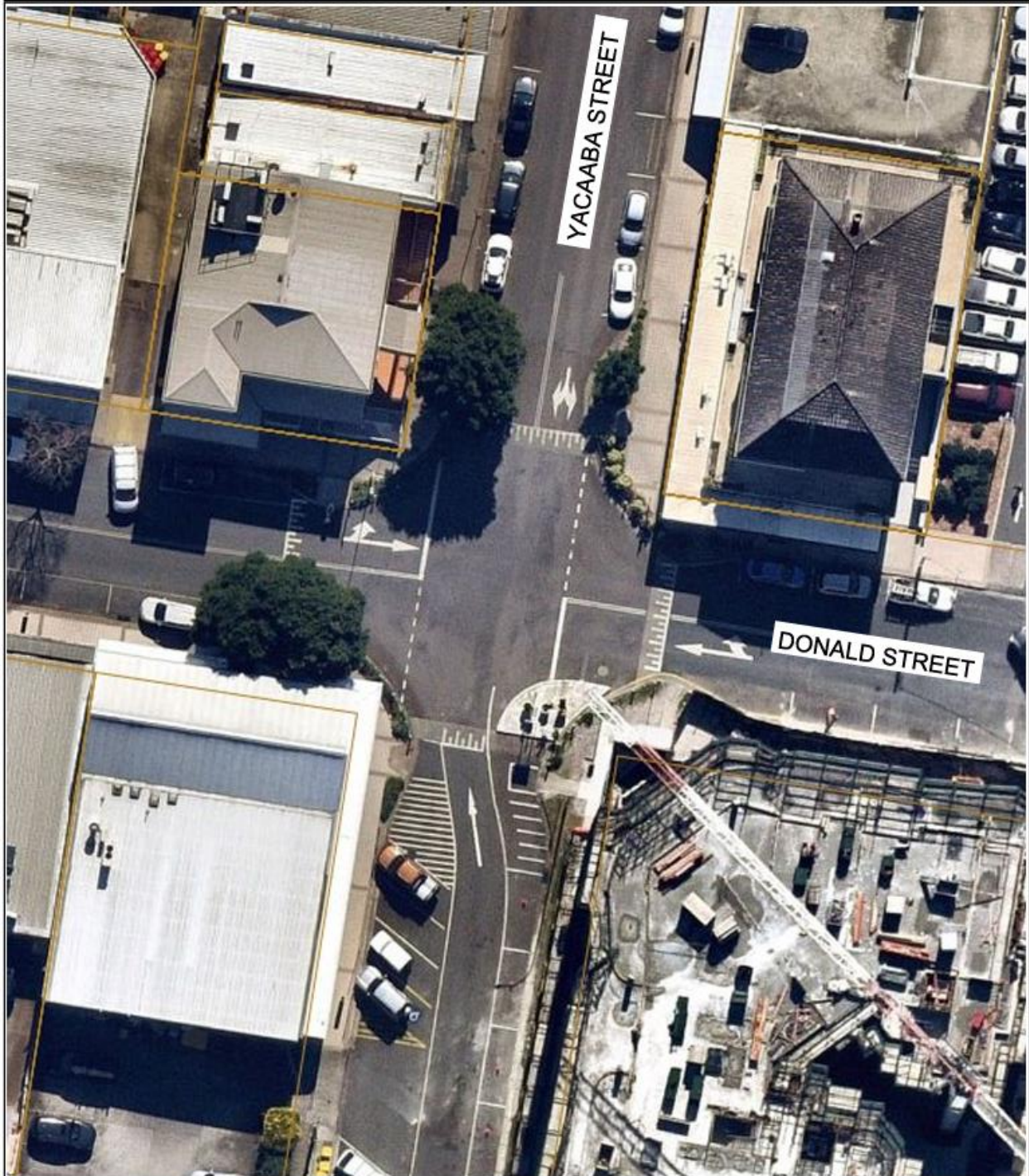
Engagement level

Level 1 – Inform

Action: Provide stakeholders with information to assist understanding of the changes and the Local Transport Forum proposal once endorsed

Proposal from the Forum:

Council officers to conduct traffic surveys to determine appropriate pedestrian treatments from a holistic perspective and apply for funding.



Legend

Item: 07_05/26

Soldiers Point Road, Salamander Bay – Request for a pedestrian crossing

Requested by: A resident

File: 463901-2026

Background:

A local resident requests that Council give consideration to the installation of a pedestrian crossing on Soldiers Point Road in the vicinity of the Muller Street intersection at Salamander Bay. The resident states that traffic volumes along Soldiers Point Road, have increased significantly in recent years, particularly during peak school and commuter periods. With the development of the new housing estate off Tarrant Road, there are now a growing number of school aged children who must cross Soldiers Point Road each morning and afternoon to access the school bus stop located on Foreshore Drive. This requires them to navigate what has become a very busy and, at times, hazardous stretch of road without the benefit of a designated safe crossing point. Additionally, residents of the nearby Uniting Care nursing home frequently cross Soldiers Point Road for recreation and access to community facilities. Many are elderly or have mobility limitations, and the lack of a formal pedestrian crossing presents a significant safety concern for them as well. Given the combination of increased traffic, vulnerable pedestrian groups, and the absence of safe crossing infrastructure, I respectfully request that Council investigate and prioritise the provision of a pedestrian crossing at this location. I believe such an improvement would greatly enhance safety and accessibility for local residents of all ages

Discussion:

Engagement level

Level 1 – Inform

Action: Provide stakeholders with information to assist understanding of the changes and the Local Transport Forum proposal once endorsed

Proposal from the Forum:

Council officers to conduct traffic surveys to determine appropriate pedestrian treatments and apply for funding if appropriate



Legend

The meeting closed at 10.05am