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Dr Richard Bean
Co-convenor
Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group (CBD Bug)
GPO Box 2104
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Dr Bean

Thank you for your emails of 3 and 22 July 2019 providing your feedback about cycling issues on O'Keefe Street, Woolloongabba.

I asked Council's Transport Planning and Operations to review the signalised crossing on O'Keefe Street. It is disappointing to hear your feedback about red light running at this location.

I am advised that this crossing was fitted with high intensity 300mm traffic lanterns in March this year to make them even more visible to motorists, and pedestrian countdown timers were also installed to alert pedestrians and cyclists of the amount of time remaining to complete the crossing. Both approaches to the crossing offer unobstructed sight lines to the traffic signals and it is considered that motorists driving with due care and attention would have no difficulty identifying the crossing. For these reasons there are currently no plans for any additional signs or lights.

Given the number and intensity of the lanterns at this crossing, Council considers that the lanterns are quite visible to motorists and the issue is primarily wilful red light running. I appreciate you have strong views about the enforcement responsibilities of the Queensland Police Service (QPS). However, as you have been previously advised, enforcement of driver behaviour issues and other traffic offences is the responsibility of the QPS and, therefore, out of Council's control. As such, I have taken this opportunity to write to Commissioner Katrina Carroll APM, Commissioner of Police, to request her consideration of a red light camera at this crossing.

I can confirm Council has been working with the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) on the design of a bridge across O'Keefe Street linking the existing sections of Veloway 1. This bridge is identified in the Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program 2019-20 to 2022-23, with funding proposed over the next few years.

While you may not agree with how city infrastructure projects are funded and scheduled, Council must manage appropriately the very high demand for transport infrastructure throughout all of Brisbane. That is why all requests have to be prioritised to ensure Council's resources are directed to streets and areas most in need of such traffic management works and those that offer the greatest benefit in terms of safety and amenity to the wider community. Given TMR's commitment for this location and the efforts already undertaken to highlight the traffic lights, Council has no plans for any further changes at this crossing.

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Your feedback about the Move Safe Brisbane consultation for this location has been noted. While the feedback received for the three locations you reference on O'Keefe Street was considered during the Move Safe review, they did not warrant further treatment when compared to other locations across the city.

I also note your comments about the pedestrian refuge island at the intersection of O'Keefe and Carl Streets. I am advised this crossing facility was installed in June 2016 and was in accordance with Council's design template and approved by a Registered Professional Engineer of Queensland. I am advised a priority crossing was considered as part of the evaluation of this treatment requested by the former councillor, Ms Helen Abrahams, but was not supported at the time.

I note your reference to the TMR guideline on priority crossings. However, the reference is made to the intersection before the current treatment was installed. With the splitter island in place, pedestrians and cyclists have a safe zone to wait for turning vehicles if required and this device also restricts two vehicles from turning out of Carl Street, reducing potential conflicts with waiting vehicles.

Considering this previous upgrade, Council is not proposing another investigation of this intersection at this time. However, additional detailed investigations would require funding in Council's budget and you may wish to raise this matter with Councillor Jonathan Sri, Councillor for The Gabba Ward, to determine if further works are a priority for his local ward.

Should you require any clarification on the Queensland Road Rules, I encourage you to contact TMR directly as they are ultimately responsible for Queensland's traffic laws.

I appreciate your request for safety enhancement measures at the Logan Road and O'Keefe Street intersection at Woolloongabba. I can confirm that Council has undertaken investigation works in the area surrounding the Logan Road and O'Keefe Street intersection. The survey data was used to inform design options for a potential future upgrade of this intersection, however, further works on this project are dependent on future budget allocations.

For further information on the investigation works, please contact the project team on 1800 669 416 or by email at cityprojects@brisbane.qld.gov.au.

Thank you for contacting me.

Yours sincerely



Adrian Schrinner
LORD MAYOR

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