



MEDIA RELEASE
Tuesday 30 August 2016

Waratah-Wynyard Mayor Robby Walsh has invited feedback on concept plans to improve a number of intersections on the Bass Highway.

The release of the concepts follows last week's allocation of \$700,000 of funding from the State and Federal Governments to improve the Bass Highway and Reservoir Drive intersection.

The concept plans released today are for the improvement of Bass Highway intersections with Reservoir Drive, Inglis Street, Wilkinson Street/Oldina Road, York Street/Calder Road and Deep Creek Road.

"Council has been working in partnership with the Department of State Growth on improving these intersections and now seeks the community's feedback on the concepts," Mayor Walsh said.

"While the proposed improvements include potential closure of some of the intersections on the Bass Highway, these designs are all about making these intersections safer, which will result in minimal impact on travel times."

The concept plans include:

- Inglis Street – providing channelised right turn lane for traffic turning into Inglis Street, providing widening of the start of Inglis Street on the Bass Highway end to facilitate a left turn for heavy vehicles and adjustments to the existing left turn lane into Stennings Road to cater for a new right turn lane;

- York Street/Calder Road – closing access between York Street and the Bass Highway by creating a cul-de-sac and to be made suitable for large bus u-turn, remove risks associated with cross traffic and turning improvements and to fill in the redundant right turn lane with painted chevrons;
- Wilkinson Street/Oldina Road – closing access between Wilkinson Street and the Bass Highway by creating a cul-de-sac and to be made suitable for large vehicle u-turn, eliminate risks associated with cross traffic and turning improvements, provide a channelized right turn lane for traffic turning into Oldina Road and providing auxiliary left turn lane for traffic turning into Oldina Road;
- Deep Creek Road – option 1 – close access to Deep Creek Road by creating a cul-de-sac suitable for large vehicle u-turn, remove risks associated with cross traffic and turning improvements and provide basic right turn treatment for traffic turning right into Deep Creek Road. Option 2 – improve safety for through and turning vehicles by reducing the risk of rear end crashes by providing channelised storage and deceleration for right turning traffic;
- Reservoir Drive – provide channelised and auxiliary right and left turn lanes, provide left turn acceleration lane for traffic turning west of Reservoir Drive (on the northern side), realigning junction approaches and installing traffic islands.

Former Federal Member for Braddon Brett Whiteley committed \$2.13 million towards the upgrades during the Federal election with a further \$500,000 also promised for a comprehensive study of the Bass Highway between Cooee and Wynyard.

Council and the Department of State Growth will be responsible for the works, which will be implemented following public consultation, further planning and implemented as funds become available.

“Road crash statistics indicate that these intersections need to be changed and the community needs to work with us to come to the best solutions for the safety of all drivers,” Mayor Walsh said.

Copies of the concepts are available online at www.warwyn.tas.gov.au/yoursay or at Council’s Wynyard office.

An information session on the concept plans will be held at Waratah-Wynyard Council chambers, 21 Saunders Street on Monday 5 September from 5pm until 6pm.

Feedback can be made in person at Waratah-Wynyard Council offices, 21 Saunders Street, Wynyard and in writing to the General Manager, PO Box 168, Wynyard Tasmania, 7325, via www.warwyn.tas.gov.au/yoursay, or posted onto Council’s Facebook page at www.facebook.com/WaratahWynyard. Comments close at 5pm on Friday 14 October 2016.

Further enquiries may be directed to:-

Communications Officer Corey Speers on 0427 207 573.

**Authorised for general media distribution by Michael Stretton, General Manager,
Waratah-Wynyard Council on Tuesday 30 August 2016**

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