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Sent to: Lord Mayor Anna Reynolds; Caden McCarthy, Manager City Mobility; Ryan Posselt, Chair of Hobart City Mobility Portfolio Committee; Scott Tilyard, Chair of Road Safety Advisory Council; Michael Furguson, Minister for Infrastructure and Transport; Senator Carol Brown; Andrew Wilkie MP; Meg Webb, MLC.

Address

Email address; phone number

Dear xx

Pedestrian Safety in Mount Nelson

The Mount Nelson Community Association Inc represents community members living in Mount Nelson and Tolmans Hill. In June 2023 we hosted a community event to discuss improvements to pedestrian safety in our community. This was attended by over fifty residents, with local, state, and federal government representatives. It was a great first conversation to hear what the community thinks needs to be improved and who we can ask for support.

In July 2023 we met to discuss next steps. The premise for all the issues and recommendations below is that we want our suburb to be a safe place for pedestrians to move around, for primary and high school students to walk/ride/scoot to and from school, for wildlife to be safe, for cyclists to enjoy the roads, for pedestrians to enjoy our beautiful bush, and to continue to encourage tourism through our suburb.

We are writing to you with our ideas and proposals for how they could be implemented. Our expectation is that this will lead to action to make our roads safer for users.

We would appreciate your consideration of the recommendations made and would like to understand what assistance or support you can provide to see them implemented. We are seeking an opportunity to discuss this with you further.

Kind regards,

Mary Blake
Chair, Pedestrian Safety Working Group
Vice-President
Mount Nelson Community Association Inc

Mount Nelson Community Association Inc
Report from the Pedestrian Safety Working Group

Pedestrian safety on Mount Nelson: Problems and Possible Solutions

The following paragraphs are split up according to sections of our community.

‘The Bends’, Nelson Road: Shared by pedestrians, cyclists and motorists

The Mount Nelson Bends are a feature of our community and are of historical importance. They are frequented by community members, local wildlife, cyclists, joggers, school students walking up and down to school, tourists and, in the near future, by many additional commuters while traffic is diverted for the upgrades to the Southern Outlet.

The bends are also used by Metro Tasmania buses, including the Taroona High School bus in the morning and mid-afternoon. When the bus is going up and down the bends, all other traffic is compromised and it is dangerous for all pedestrians. The bends are narrow and many residents need to park on the side of the road.

We recommend the following to improve pedestrian safety on the bends:

- Reduce the speed limit from 50km/hour to 40km/hour.
- Cut away edges of this road so cars can park safely and allow other cars to pass safely.
- Install a ‘wildlife’ and ‘pedestrian’ sign at the bottom of the bends (Churchill Avenue) and at the top (near the water tank) to highlight the need for safety of both wildlife and pedestrians.

Mount Nelson Primary School-Bend 7 to Olinda Grove: No safe route to school

This area of road is used by primary school students, high school students of Taroona High School and other local high schools, pedestrians, cyclists, and tourists. It continues to be a windy stretch of road and there is only a bumpy footpath on one side of the road. In addition, local residents park their cars on Nelson Rd making it dangerous for Metro buses and cars to travel past each other.

We recommend the following to improve the pedestrian safety on this stretch of road:

- Continue the speed limit as 40km/hour all the way to Olinda Grove
- Paint yellow lines on the road opposite the roads that intersect Nelson Rd, for example across from Rialannah Rd, Brinsmead Rd, Tangara Rd, and other narrow parts of the road to stop people parking in these dangerous spots.
- Paint a zebra crossing near Rialannah Rd so Mount Nelson Primary School students and students getting on and off the Taroona High School and other school buses can safely cross.
- Resurface the footpath on this section of road: it is bumpy, cracked, and unsafe. It is particularly unsafe for prams, cyclists, scooters, and people with disabilities.
- Repair the footpath up across Brinsmead Rd, it goes to cobble stones which are really unsafe for all pedestrians and any wheels. This crossing is also on such an angle that prams frequently tip.
- Paint a zebra crossing near Nelson Rd and Brinsmead Rd. This is also a crossing used by students.

- Improve safety around Metro Bus Stop 24, near where Rialannah Road and Mount Nelson intersect. This bus stop is unsafe for cars as the bus stops and cars can't get around, and unsafe for people getting on and off the bus into the bush, with no safe way to cross Rialannah Rd. There could be an area cut out, or this could be where the zebra crossing is placed.
- Near Bend 7, continue a footpath from Bus Stop 21 to join the path lower down. The residents find it very unsafe to walk to their house at no. 322.

Nelson Road/Olinda Grove Junction to the Signal Station: Another shared road

This section of road does not have a continuous footpath. It joins the Southern Outlet to Mount Nelson, and is used by pedestrians, school and college students, residents, the Metro bus, and tourists. The number of residents in Mount Nelson and Tolmans Hill has dramatically increased since this stretch of road and footpath were established, with new housing developments happening in both suburbs.

We recommend the following to improve pedestrian safety on this stretch of road:

- Paint a zebra crossing between the local shop and the bus stop opposite. This joins the footpath that comes up from Rialannah Rd and is also a frequent stop for Metro bus users.
- Establish a 40km/hour section from Broughton Avenue to the Signal Station.
- Erect a wildlife and pedestrian signs up near the local shop and at the Signal Station.
- Create a continuous footpath on one side of the road from the local shop to the Signal Station or paint a zebra crossing near the Mount Nelson Oval where the footpath stops on one side of the road and begins on the other side.
- Ultimately, build a continuous footpath from the oval to the Signal Station on one side of the road. Although parts of this section have been widened, for most of it there is no defined footpath
- Paint yellow lines across the road from off-shoot roads and other narrow areas of the road to prevent cars from parking on the road.
- Cut away areas of the road so local residents can park safely.
- Build a shelter at the bus stop at the Signal Station. This is for local commuters and tourists who wait for Metro and tourist buses.

Olinda Grove: The busy entry to Mount Nelson

This section of road begins when cars exit the Southern Outlet to enter Mount Nelson and goes all the way to the intersection of Olinda Grove with Nelson Road. It services Hobart College, the University of Tasmania soccer oval, and the local fire station.

We recommend the following to improve pedestrian safety for this section of road:

- Build a footpath on both sides of the road. There is a footpath from Nelson Road to the soccer oval on the non-college side of the road. There is also a pedestrian refuge on Olinda Grove near the junction with Nelson Road. On the college side there is a footpath from the shop to the bus stop near the college entrance but from there to the Fire Station, there is no defined footpath, so students and pedestrians walk on the road.

- Install a 'Welcome to Mount Nelson' sign near the fires station/University of Tasmania soccer oval, that acknowledges Mount Nelson is a suburb with pedestrians and wildlife so people see this as soon as they exit the Southern Outlet.
- Put pedestrian signs near Hobart College, so drivers are aware of college students.
- Put a zebra crossing from the bus drop off zone in the College across to the footpath on the other side of the road. This is for College students, general commuters, and importantly primary school students catching the bus from Tolman's Hill to Mount Nelson (Tolman's Hill is a feeder suburb for Mount Nelson Primary School).
- Do a traffic audit of cars entering and exiting Hobart College to establish if there is a better way to support traffic flow. In the mornings, there is congestion from the Outlet as people are dropping students at the College and in the afternoons there are buses lined up from the University of Tasmania soccer oval to the college to pick students up. There may be better ways to support traffic flow at these two times of day.

Action	Area	Recommendation	Responsibility
Speed limit adjustments	Churchill Avenue to Olinda Grove intersection	Establish 40km zone on the bends 40km/hr and continue to the intersection	State Growth HCC
	Broughton Ave to Signal Station	Establish 40km zone	State Growth HCC
	Olinda Grove in front of the College	Create school time 40km zone	State Growth HCC
Wildlife signage	At the bottom of the bends (Churchill Avenue end)	Insert a wildlife and pedestrian sign	HCC
	At the entrance to Mount Nelson off the Southern Outlet on Olinda Grove	Insert a wildlife and pedestrian sign	HCC
	At the local shop	Insert a wildlife and pedestrian sign	HCC
	At the Signal Station	Insert a wildlife and pedestrian sign	HCC
Other signage	At the entrance to Mount Nelson off the Southern Outlet on Olinda Grove	Welcome to Mount Nelson sign with images of wildlife, pedestrians, and cyclists	HCC
	Near Hobart College	Insert pedestrian/school zone signs	HCC
Pedestrian/zebra crossings	On Nelson Rd near Rialannah Rd	Paint a crossing on Nelson Rd as this is a high traffic pedestrian crossing for students and bus users	HCC
	Nelson Rd and Brinsmead Rd	Paint a crossing on Nelson Rd	HCC
	Nelson Rd, from the local shop to the bus stop	Paint a crossing on this section of Nelson Rd	HCC
	Near the oval where the footpath stops	Paint a crossing to join the footpaths	HCC
	Olinda Grove, from College Bus area to footpath on the other side of the road	Paint a crossing	HCC
Footpath maintenance	Olinda Grove to Mount Nelson Primary School	Upgrade and smooth the footpath	HCC
	Leading to and across Brinsmead Rd	Replace the cobble stones and improve this crossing	HCC
Footpath construction	Bend 7 to Bus Stop 21	Establish a footpath on this section of road	HCC
	Nelson Road from the local shop to the Signal Station	Create a continuous, well maintained footpath	HCC
	Southern Outlet to Hobart College on Fire Station side of the road	Build a footpath that continues all the way to Hobart College	HCC
No parking areas/ yellow lines	Intersection of Nelson Rd and Rialannah Road	Paint yellow on the road	HCC
	Intersection of Nelson Rd and Brinsmead Rd	Paint yellow on the road	HCC

	Intersection of Nelson Rd and Tangara Rd	Paint yellow on the road	HCC
	Other roads coming off Nelson Rd between the oval and the Signal Station	Paint yellow lines on the road	HCC
Road maintenance	Mount Nelson Bends	Cut away edges of the road so cars can park safely and allow cars driving to pass safely	HCC
	Between the oval and the Signal Station	Cut away areas of the road so people can park on the road without impeding the footpath	HCC
Bus stop improvement	Metro Bus Stop 24	Cut away the bushes so it is safer for people getting on and off the bus and cars manoeuvring around the bus	HCC Metro
	Bus stop at the Signal Station	Build a shelter	HCC Tourism Tasmania Metro
Other	Outside Hobart College	A traffic audit of cars entering and exiting the College	HCC