



MINUTES

Traffic Advisory Local (TALC)

held at

Council Administration Centre
Committee Room
180 Mort Street, Lithgow

on

Thursday 7th September 2023

at 11:00 AM

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The Chairperson declared the meeting open at 11:00am.

1. Acknowledgement of Country

Lithgow City Council acknowledges Wiradjuri Elders past and present of the Wiradjuri nation - the original custodians of the land on which the Lithgow's communities reside. The Council also extends our respects to our neighbouring nations.

The Chair acknowledged Wiradjuri Elders past and present of the Wiradjuri nation - the original custodians of the land on which the Lithgow's communities reside and extended respect to our neighbouring nations.

2. Present

Councillor Stephen Lesslie (Chair)
Col Sheil - Lithgow Police
Jackie Barry - Transport for NSW

Officers:

Leanne Kearney - Assets & Infrastructure Planning Manager / Acting Director Infrastructure & Economy
Kaitlin Cibulka - Minutes

3. Apologies

Christian Bustelo - Lithgow Buslines

4. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the TALC Committee held on the 6th July 2023 were presented to the Council on 24th July 2023.

ACTION

THAT the Minutes of the meeting of be taken as read and confirmed.

MOVED: Cr S Lesslie

SECONDED: C Sheil

6. Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest made.

7. Presentations

Nil

8. Staff Reports

8.1. McKanes Falls Road, South Bowenfels - Request for Reinstatement of Load Limit

An overview of the report was provided. L Kearney advised that complaints have been received about the amount of heavy vehicle traffic travelling along this stretch of road. The Administration made contact with the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (NHVR) about this matter. It was advised that it is not an approved heavy vehicle route and they are unable to issue fines unless an NHVR Officer inspects the infringements directly. However, they did suggest that residents make contact with local Police with dashcam footage (if available) for assistance. The Administration also contacted Transport NSW as the previous bridge had a load limit of 5 Tonne, although the bridge can cater for heavy vehicles now the road itself cannot. If a tonnage limit were to be reinstated, Rangers and local Police will be able to enforce and issue fines if necessary.

C Sheil suggested reducing the vehicle length limit from 19.5m to 12.5m as this may reduce complaints. Whilst this suggestion was deliberated by the Committee it was deemed better to have a load limit as this would completely reduce heavy vehicles along this route. The Administration advised that should this recommendation be moved; contact would be made to local quarries to advise their contractors and seek and feedback. It was noted that buses would be exempt.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council reinstate the 5 tonne load limit on McKanes Falls Road, South Bowenfels between Great Western Highway and Jenolan Caves Road to improve safety for road users, and preserve the structural integrity of the road

MOVED: Cr S Lesslie

SECONDED: C Sheil

CARRIED

8.2. Tour De Cure Bicycle Event

The Committee were advised that this group has passed through the area on previous charity rides, and they also visit local schools during their tour.

It was noted that they are not riding up Victoria Pass, however will be ferried up in vehicles to reduce the risk to the riders and motorists travelling along this stretch.

L Kearney noted that there have been no issues with their previous events.

J Barry raised an issue that has been raised at other traffic Committees in relation to an additional vehicle for breakdowns as the lead and tail vehicles must stay with the pelotons at all times.

It was advised that the Administration would confirm this with the event manager and can advise the Committee of the advice provided.

C Sheil also requested that confirmation be sought that the event organiser has submitted notification to the NSW Police, as at this stage it has not been received.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT permission be granted to conduct the Tour De Cure bicycle event travelling through Lithgow on Monday, 6th of November 2023, subject to permission being granted by TfNSW and NSW Police Road Events.

MOVED: Cr S Lesslie

SECONDED: J Barry

CARRIED

8.3. 2023 Alpine Classic Road Event

L Kearney advised that this is an on road event and they comply with all the road rules. There are no road closures for this event, however it's a notification of additional traffic on these roads.

J Barry advised that as the event is also being carried out on State roads as well, they are required to notify the Traffic Operations department at Transport for NSW of their event.

The Administration also noted this for future events.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council endorse the 2023 Alpine Classic road event on local roads in the Lithgow Local Government on 14th and 15th October 2023 provided verification of the approval from NSW Police is provided

MOVED: Cr S Lesslie

SECONDED: C Sheil

CARRIED

8.4. 2023 Lithgow Halloween Event

L Kearney gave an overview of the report noting the reduction of the closure from previous years due to feedback from the event from previous years.

No issues were raised and the Committee agreed to move the below recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council to approve the Traffic Management Plan for the 2023 Lithgow Halloween event, including the following temporary road closures between 10.00am Saturday, 28th October 2023 until 1.00am Sunday, 29th October 2023:

- Main Street, Lithgow between Sandford Avenue and Bridge Street
- Eskbank Street, between Main Street Lane and Railway Parade
- Station Street, between Main Street and Station Street Carpark
- Burns Lane (Bank Lane) between Main Street and Main Street Lane

MOVED: Cr S Lesslie

SECONDED: C Sheil

CARRIED

9. General Business

9.1. General Business Items

1. 2023 Bathurst Rally – notification has been received from the organisers of the 2023 Bathurst Rally advising that they have decided not to proceed with using Mt Horrible Road and Dark Corner Road for their proposed rally due to the unavailability of suitable roads within the Sunny Corner State Forest. The event will proceed but only within Bathurst, Cabonne and Blayney Local Government Areas.
2. Donkey Steps access route into the Wolgan Valley will be automatic with the introduction of traffic lights from week commencing 11th September 2023, resulting in Council's Traffic Facilities Officer being redeployed to his regular duties. It is expected that the back log of signage and line marking projects approved by Council will be cleared by December 2023 (or earlier weather permitting). A full report on outstanding tasks will be provided at the next TALC meeting. It was noted that the route is still for resident access only and Emirates staff to carry out care and maintenance. Cr S Lesslie requested that a report be presented to Council advising of the operations of the Donkey Steps access in the Wolgan Valley
3. Lithgow Workies Club reported issues with near misses on the pedestrian crossing in Tank Street, Lithgow, especially at night / inclement weather. Council has met with Lithgow Workies, and will be upgrading the pedestrian crossing lighting, linemarking and signage to see if this improves the situation, and if not, will look at other possible resolutions that can be implemented. It was also noted Council did apply for a grant for pedestrian crossing warning lights on multiple crossings in the LGA including this one, however was unsuccessful.
4. LATE ITEM - Blue Mountains Grammar School have notified Council of a change in their route for their walking event in October. It was advised that the students will be walking in private property from Centennial Glen to their property on Blaxland Road only crossing at Cox's River Road along Fregars Road. No traffic impacts are expected during the event (they will have signage on Cox's River Road to warn motorists that they will be crossing, with vehicles having right of way. The walkers will be using the road verge on both Blaxland Road and Fregars Road

ACTION

THAT

1. The withdrawal of the use of Mt Horrible Road and Dark Corner Road for the 2023 Bathurst Rally be noted; and
2. A report be brought to the Council on the operations of the Donkey Steps in the Wolgan Valley; and
3. The Committee notes the change of route of the Blue Mountains Grammar School event.

MOVED: Cr S Lesslie

SECONDED: C Sheil

CARRIED

General Business

Cr S Lesslie asked about a matter he raised at a Council meeting in relation to giveaway /stop signage at the intersection of Academy and Methven Streets.

It was advised that the Administration has been made aware of the requests and that an investigation was underway and once completed will be reported to a future Committee meeting.

J Barry raised that at the last meeting her colleague has provided incorrect information in relation to the signage request at the intersection of Range Road and Great Western Highway.

The Administration advised that they will bring a report back to the Committee for recommendation.

10. Meeting Close

Next Meeting: Thursday 5th October 2023 at 11:00am in the Committee Room

There being no further business the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 11:45am .