

**ITEM MAYORAL MINUTE - IMPROVING PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IN
MORTLAKE**

Department Executive Services

Author Initials: AT

REPORT

I would like to direct Council's attention to an important issue concerning pedestrian safety in Mortlake.

I have heard from a number of our community members and representatives of St Patricks Catholic Primary School and Parish in Mortlake regarding pedestrian safety concerns in the area.

Whilst Council staff had previously reviewed the traffic and pedestrian movements around the school and parish, it was apparent that the area has continued to evolve. Traffic conditions on Gale Street in particular make crossing the road difficult for children and their parents and carers, as well as parishioners and other pedestrians.

In September, Council received a petition with over 700 signatures on this matter. I requested our Council officers meet with the school principal and representatives of their P&C Association at the school site to discuss their concerns, and to communicate that Council would undertake fresh investigations to determine an appropriate solution.

It was agreed that our Traffic and Transport team would undertake new traffic and pedestrian counts in the surrounding street network after the term three school holiday period.

I am pleased to advise that this work has now been completed and we are proposing the installation of a raised pedestrian crossing on Gale Street outside the church.

This important piece of infrastructure will provide connectivity for the significant numbers of community members looking to cross Gale Street. It will also provide a traffic calming function to manage vehicle speeds along this stretch of road.

I have asked staff to prioritise the consultation, design and approval process to enable the crossing to be constructed as soon as practicable. This process will include review through the Local Traffic Committee, community consultation and formal approval through Council.

A number of other locations around St Patricks School were also identified by the community for investigation. The findings of these investigations by Council staff are also to be reported to the Local Traffic Committee for consideration.

We are committed to providing a safe environment for all members of our community, from school children to the elderly and I am eager to see this completed for our Concord and Mortlake residents.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Whilst a detailed cost estimate has not yet been carried out for the proposed raised pedestrian crossing, information from similar infrastructure previously constructed would suggest a cost of around \$100,000 which includes the pedestrian crossing itself and required lighting upgrades.

As this is a new project, funding will need to be allocated through the quarterly budget review process to allow for construction.

RECOMMENDATION

1. THAT Council provide in-principle support to the provision of a raised pedestrian crossing in Gale Street, subject to community consultation and Local Traffic Committee review.
2. THAT a report be taken to the next Local Traffic Committee to review the concept proposal for a raised pedestrian crossing in Gale Street.
3. THAT a report be provided to the next Local Traffic Committee regarding investigations into the need for other safety initiatives in area around St Patricks Catholic Primary School.
4. THAT Council staff undertake community consultation early in the new year for a raised pedestrian crossing in Gale Street and the outcomes of this be reported back to the Local Traffic Committee.
5. THAT funding be allocated through the quarterly budget review process to allow for the delivery of a raised pedestrian crossing in Gale Street in this financial year.

