



TOWN OF COTTESLOE

PROPOSED CROSSING ISLAND
ERIC STREET AT CHARLES ST

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Scale 1:500

Monday, 13 January 2014





Town of Cottesloe

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Our Ref: PR53674
Enquiries: Geoff Trigg

14 January 2014

74 Eric Street
COTTESLOE WA 6011

Dear

RE: POTENTIAL PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ISLAND, ERIC STREET, COTTESLOE

At its December 2013 meeting, Council considered a submission from the North Cottesloe Primary School, requesting consideration of a number of proposals aimed at increasing the safety of school children walking to and from the school site.

A copy of the Council report on this matter is attached. Council resolved the following on this matter:

THAT Council:

- 1. Contact the owners of 70, 72 and 74 Eric Street to explain the proposal for a median island and connecting path on the north side verge and request comments.*
- 2. Subject to the comments received, arrange for the appropriate site survey and island designs, to be available for Council consideration in February 2014.*
- 3. Refer the matter of the cost of the median island to the mid year budget review for consideration.*
- 4. Inform the North Cottesloe Primary School of its decision regarding an Eric Street crossing island and the Blackspot proposal on Curtin Avenue which will include islands at the Florence Street intersection.*
- 5. Reconsider this matter in February 2014.*

One point of this resolution was to inform the owners likely to be affected by a pedestrian crossing island in Eric Street of the proposal to gain comments and suggestions on the idea.

A general plan is attached showing the proposal. Proper survey and design of the island would proceed if agreement is reached with property owners, including yourself.

The main points of the proposal are:

1. The island would be approximately 12m long and 1.8m wide in the centre, with a 2m gap at the actual crossing point.
2. A road widening would be required to preserve the lane widths on each side of the new island. This would take place only on the south side.
3. On the south side, a new concrete path extension would be built to connect between the existing Charles Street path and the island crossing point.
4. On the north side, a new concrete connection path would be built to connect from the existing Eric Street footpath close to the property boundary and the island crossing point.
5. Once a fully designed plan was developed Main Roads WA would have to approve to design for new line marking and signage to be installed.
6. Council would fund and fully control the island and path installations, with all required traffic control in place.

Council has asked that you consider this proposal and provide comments to be considered at the February 2014 meeting. Comments would need to be received by Tuesday 4 February 2014 by letter or email.

If there are any queries, please contact this office on 9285 5050.

Yours sincerely



Geoff Trigg
Manager Engineering Services

Enc: December Council Meeting Report 10.4.2 North Cottesloe Primary School – Request for Crossing Islands – Eric Street and Curtin Avenue, Cottesloe
Plan of proposed crossing island Eric Street at Charles Street

74 Eric Street
Cottesloe
WA 6011 Australia

15th January 2014

Geoff Trigg
Manager Engineering Services
Town of Cottesloe
109 Broome Street
WA 6011

Re Proposed Pedestrian Crossing Island, opposite 72 Eric Street

Thankyou for your letter of 14th January, outlining the proposals and inviting my comments as householder adjacent to the proposed development. Please note my views as follows.

1. I support the further development of the crossing facility at Curtin Avenue at the end of Florence Street but NOT the traffic island development opposite 72 Eric Street
2. Although the general strategy of reducing car traffic and encouraging walking is commendable, the Eric Street proposal is significantly flawed. It is based entirely upon the subjective views and zeal of a small group on North Cottesloe Primary School P&C and not upon reliable data of who currently walks to school, the route they take and the projected increase in numbers who might walk if the crossing was improved, but don't walk now (for safety reasons). This number is likely to be very small.
3. Currently, during term time and when the weather is fine, several families cross from the footpath at Charles Street to the North side of Eric Street. Most of these families live in the block bounded by Marmion Avenue to the West and Haining Avenue to the North and they come down Charles Street as a quiet street with little traffic, and offering the most direct diagonal route to the Curtin/Eric Street Crossing. They usually do this by crossing diagonally onto my driveway at 74 Eric Street and I have to exercise extra care when reversing from my driveway. The reason they cross here is because there is no footpath along the South side of Eric street from Charles Street. If such a footpath was provided, it would send the pedestrian traffic to the Curtin/Eric Street Traffic lights (without the need to cross Eric Street at number 72) which has proper phased crossing controls and does not require a traffic warden.

4. The crossing is offset to the West from the Charles Street pathway, necessitating walking the wrong way down Eric Street to use the crossing. Many will therefore ignore the crossing (unless there is a warden there to enforce it) and continue to cross directly and cut diagonally across my driveway
5. I am opposed to the adjustment of traffic flow at the proposed traffic island because this will lead to increased traffic noise as vehicles slow down, swerve around the island and speed up again. I refer to the council's decision to remove unnecessary speed bumps from Broome Street because of the increased traffic noise last year following lobbying by local residents
6. I am opposed to the addition of extra concrete onto the verge and the likely removal of trees there
7. I am very opposed to the extra signage and lighting which will likely be installed at the crossing
8. The crossing will be used more by drunks late at night walking along Eric Street from the Cottesloe Beach Hotel and Ocean Beach Hotel, needing a garden to throw their beer bottles into and to use as a public convenience. My garden being the first one they will come to on the North side of Eric Street.

To summarise, I am strongly against the Eric Street Crossing Proposal, I do support the Curtin Street improvement, and would support the improvement/development of a footpath along the South side of Eric Street particularly between Charles Street and Curtin Avenue.

Please advise me of the outcome of the meeting on 14th February.
Yours sincerely

Geoff Trigg

From:
Sent: Monday, 3 February 2014 10:15 PM
To: council
Subject: Potential Crossing Island, Eric Street, Cottesloe.

To Whom it may concern,

As the owners of #3 / 72 Eric Street, Cottesloe and recent past parents of children at North Cottesloe Primary School we object to the creation of a median island and connecting path on the north side verge of Eric Street for a number of reasons as detailed below:

We believe the creation of a median island will make turning right off Eric Street in to the parking bays for #70 & #72 hazardous as the median island will potentially act as a visual obstruction and also create a distraction to vehicles travelling east along Eric Street.

We would lose the use of the verge for occasional visitor parking.

We would lose the amenity that is the grass verge outside our property.

We have not witnessed an increase in school aged pedestrian traffic on the south side of Eric Street that would warrant the need for a median island.

We would challenge the suggestion that there has been a sufficient increase in school age children using Charles Street (and feeder streets) as the arrival point to cross Eric Street.

The funds required to cover the appropriate surveys, environmental studies and construction costs would be better allocated to resurfacing the lane-way between Eric Street and Florence Street – particularly now that the Bobtail Goannas and Blue Tongue Lizards have left the area due to the huge increase in building approvals and renovations along Florence and Eric Streets.

Alternatively, if there is a proven and demonstrable volume of school age pedestrians on the south side of Eric Street entering from Charles Street, a more cost effective and less disruptive solution would be to create a new footpath on the south side of Eric Street running from the west side of Charles Street through the vacant landscape down to the Curtin Avenue/Eric Street junction where there is a traffic light controlled pedestrian crossing – the same crossing the the children would use if they were channeled across Eric Street as per the proposed crossing island.

Your sincerely

Owners #3/72 Eric Street, Cottesloe



31 March 2014

Geoff Trigg
Manager Engineering Services
Cottesloe Council
109 Broome Street
COTTESLOE WA 6011

Dear Geoff

RE: NORTH COTTESLOE PRIMARY SCHOOL - REQUEST FOR PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ISLAND, ERIC STREET, OPPOSITE THE SCOUT HALL, COTTESLOE

We refer to the request by the Cottesloe Council to make further comments on the responses from nearby residents in relation to our request for a crossing island to be built on Eric Street to ensure the safe crossing of one quarter of North Cottesloe Primary School (NCPS) children.

Our comments are as follows;

- As can be seen by the diagram (shown at the bottom and prepared by yourself), the driveways of the nearby properties actually are not impinged by these islands and they have full access to their driveways from all directions.
- The widening of the road would be able to be made on the scout hall side of the road, not on the side of the near by residents.
- The authorities/experts (Dept of Transport, Police/Traffic Wardens, Main Roads) instructed the school/Walk to school bus that this was the safest location to cross Eric Street.
- We initially looked at the options of children crossing at the round about (cnr Marmion & Eric St) or at the traffic lights (Cnr of Eric and Curtain Ave). We were advised both were more dangerous for the children to cross and they were better suited crossing in the middle of this section. The traffic lights do not have adequate sized islands for the children to cross and they do not have suitable pedestrian crossings with the walk/don't walk signals required for children in particular. Main roads will not add a suitable pedestrian crossing here because it will significantly worsen the traffic situation and there are future plans for a 'fly over' making this crossing impossible and not a long term solution.
- Eric St is very dangerous – about double the number of cars in the hour drive along to what would be required for a crossing attendant.
- We would like our children to be able to ride to school/walk safely. Year 5-7 children should be able to ride on their own, but it is just too dangerous to allow them to do this safely because of needing to cross Eric St. Roughly one quarter of the school population lives in this section (Curtain Ave, Eric St, Marine Pde, Forrest St).



- The school and the Cottesloe Council have been actively encouraging the community to walk/ride for health, it is environmentally friendly and an aid in reducing traffic congestion on Eric Street. The North Cottesloe Primary School has been developing, over several years, promotion systems for children to walk or ride to school, rather than be transported by vehicles. The Cottesloe Council has already shown support for this walk to school route through constructing a path along Charles Street for this purpose.
- The children need to have a safe way to enable them to do this.
- There are already a number of children crossing at this point which had been surveyed /audited by the Childrens Crossing & Road Safety Committee (Main Roads/Education Dept/Police) and a 'Type B application for a Traffic Warden' has been approved on this basis (to be Funded by the community). It is hoped that the island will make the crossing much safer which will increase the usage, enabling a Type A Crossing Warden to be approved (Funded by the Police Dept).
- The school does not wish to upset residents but we also need to make it safe for the children to get to school. It would be acceptable to have grass to connect the crossing to the path on the North side if the residents would prefer, although a path would be optimal for bikes, scooters, prams and other community members that may require a solid pavement.
- We would also like to create a safe/defined access way to the scout hall as it is envisaged in the future (once this Scout Hall is complete) that there will be increased activity between the Scouts and NCPS and a stronger relationship formed.

Whilst we don't wish any inconvenience on residents in the area, we are extremely concerned about the safety of our local children. The island crossing would primarily only be used between the hours of 8-9am and 3-4pm Monday to Friday, which would cause minimal disruption but provide a much higher level of safety and reassurance.

We would appreciate it if you would inform us when this will next be addressed at a Council meeting.

Should you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact Kirsty Barrett on
or myself on

Yours Sincerely

SARA HECTOR
Chairman
North Cottesloe Primary School Board