

**ITEM-17 NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR LITTLE - RUSSELL
LEA PUBLIC SCHOOL PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES &
TRAFFIC SAFETY UPGRADES**

Department **Executive Services**

Author Initials: JL

REPORT

The Russell Lea Public School P & C and broader school community have expressed several concerns about pedestrian safety around the school.

Since 2019, the school has expanded from an infants school, K-2 students to include students from K-6 due to increased enrolments in the local catchment.

Notwithstanding the existing need for traffic and pedestrian safety infrastructure, the increase in students independently walking or cycling has increased due to the older student demographic now attending the school.

In addition, the school also has an arrangement with Council to use Neild Park for sport on a regular basis. Currently, any travel path to access the park does not have a pedestrian crossing.

The P & C have provided a list of pedestrian and traffic safety requests in a letter dated 17 October 2021.

It includes:

- School Zone status (school zone signs, dragon's teeth road markings and flashing lights) on Barnstaple Rd (Robert Avenue to Alison Street)
- School Zone status (school zone signs, dragon's teeth road markings and flashing lights) on Brent Street (Undine Street to Alison Street)
- Pedestrian crossing or Refuge on Barnstaple Road
- Pedestrian crossing or Refuge on Brent Street

Many of these issues were identified in an independent report provided to Council by GHD under PAMP. It identified the missing pedestrian crossings or refuges on Brent St and Barnstaple Rd, Russell Lea.

Following a meeting with the P & C representatives and School Principal I recommend the following:

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. THAT Council give in-principle support to installing a pedestrian crossing on Barnstaple Rd for the school children and broader community and commence the necessary investigations to be brought back the first Council workshop in the new term.
2. THAT Council investigate a traffic refuge or appropriate safety measure on Brent St and bring the report back to Council.
3. THAT Council place the school zone request on the next Traffic Committee Agenda for the State Authorities to consider.
4. THAT Council officers provide other speed amelioration signs or other safety measures to the school community in the surrounding streets as soon as practicable e.g. Smiley Face speed monitoring signs on Brent or Barnstaple Road.
5. THAT Council contact the Principal and P & C during caretaker mode to discuss the process and timing of these measures.