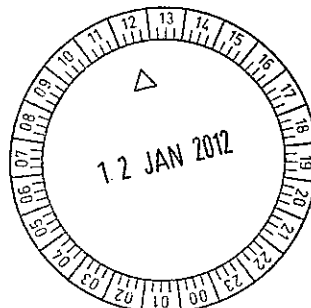




Minister for Transport; Housing; Emergency Services

Our Ref : 30-23955



Hon B Ellis MLC
Chair
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs
Parliament House
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Mr Ellis

I refer to your letter of 6 December 2011 concerning Petition 146 tabled by Hon Ed Dermer MLC, on behalf of his constituent, Mrs Madge Powell, concerning safety for pedestrians crossing Wanneroo Road between Kingsway and Hepburn Avenue to access Kingsway Shopping Centre.

Mr Dermer has also raised this matter with me and my Principal Policy Adviser, Mr Michael Buba, responded to him on 6 December 2011. A copy of Mr Buba's response is attached for your information.

I trust the information provided will be of assistance to the Committee.

Yours sincerely

Hon Troy Buswell, MLA
MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT

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Minister for Transport; Housing

Our Ref : 30-22973

Hon E Dermer MLC
Member for North Metropolitan Region
82 Collier Avenue
BALCATTWA WA 6021

Dear Mr Dermer

I refer to your letter of 1 November 2011 addressed to the Minister for Transport, Hon Troy Buswell MLA, following an approach from your constituents concerning pedestrian safety for residents of Kingsley Lakeside Village crossing Wanneroo Road to access Kingsway Shopping Centre. The Minister has asked that I respond.

As you may be aware, Wanneroo Road is a 70 km/h Primary Distributor Road which has carried significant volumes of traffic for many years. Primary Distributor Roads are necessary to ensure that the community has access to goods and services while at the same time ensuring that necessary heavy regional traffic is appropriately managed and channelled away from residential streets. In the normal course of events, dedicated pedestrian facilities are only installed on Primary Distributor Road where there is significant pedestrian activity which is concentrated at a single location. Experience has shown that providing a number of opportunities for pedestrians to cross these types of roads decreases the efficiency of the road and is likely to compromise safety for all road users.

Notwithstanding this, the Minister considers road safety to be a very important matter and this is especially true for those of a more vulnerable nature, such as the elderly. With this in mind, Main Roads undertook a site inspection of the area in order to assess the situation and identify any existing pedestrian facilities. As you would be aware, Wanneroo Road is a dual carriageway with a pedestrian crossing opposite Kingsley Lakeside Village which offers the opportunity to cross the road in two stages. During the on-site investigation it was observed that sufficient gaps exist in the traffic to cross the road in safety at this location.

In addition, I am advised that there are a number of other locations in the vicinity of Kingsley Lakeside Village where pedestrians may safely cross the road to access Kingsway Shopping Centre including at the signalised intersections of Wanneroo Road /Kingsway and Wanneroo Road / Hepburn Avenue which are provided with pedestrian facilities.

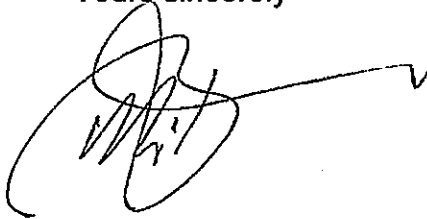
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With regard to the crossing opposite the Village, I am advised that warning signs alerting drivers to the likelihood of pedestrians are installed on both approaches. However, Main Roads will arrange for the median vegetation to be trimmed in order to increase visibility for your constituents and motorists. As advised above, Minister Buswell considers the safety of elderly pedestrians to be a most important objective and with this in mind your constituents may wish to contact Main Roads' Pedestrian and Cycling Co-ordinator, Mr Colin Ward, on 9323 4721 or alternatively, colin.ward@mainroads.wa.gov.au should they wish to discuss their particular situation.

I trust the information provided will assist you in advising your constituents.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Buba', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Michael Buba
PRINCIPAL POLICY ADVISER

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6 - DEC 2011