

Title: Mitigation Strategies for Reducing Accidents at Weeroona Avenue & Caledonia Street, Bendigo

Date: 8 September 2024

Item: Reduce accidents at Weeroona x Caledonia

Core message / purpose:

This paper outlines key recommendations to reduce the occurrence of accidents at the Weeroona Avenue & Caledonia Street intersection in Bendigo. The intersection has been identified as a high-risk area with eight recorded accidents, primarily involving right-turn conflicts and vehicle collisions during afternoon and evening hours. This paper provides targeted measures to address the recurring issues and improve road safety at this location.

Recommendation/s:

That the Committee:

- **Approves** the implementation of road safety improvements, including clearer signage, dedicated turn lanes, and public awareness campaigns at the Weeroona Avenue & Caledonia Street intersection.
- **Endorses** further investigation into traffic signal improvements and speed adjustments at the intersection.

Key information:

1. **Overview:** The Weeroona Avenue & Caledonia Street intersection has recorded eight accidents, six of which involved right-turn conflicts between vehicles. The common time of occurrence is during afternoon and evening hours, between 3 PM and 6 PM. There are no existing dedicated turn lanes, which may contribute to frequent right-turn collisions.
2. **Contributing Factors:**
 - **Turn Type:** Right-turns are the primary cause of accidents, making up 75% of incidents.
 - **Time of Day:** The majority of accidents occurred during high-traffic hours in the late afternoon.
 - **Road Design:** The lack of dedicated right-turn lanes or signals likely contributes to the conflict between turning vehicles and through traffic.
1. **Proposed Actions:**
 - **Installation of dedicated right-turn lanes:** To separate turning traffic from through traffic, reducing conflict at the intersection.
 - **Improved road signage:** Install "Give Way" and "Caution: Turning Vehicles" signs to increase driver awareness of turn risks.
 - **Traffic signal improvements:** Introduce a dedicated right-turn signal phase, particularly during peak hours, to manage turn movements safely.
 - **Speed limit adjustment:** Consider reducing the speed limit at the intersection during peak traffic times to improve reaction time and reduce collision severity.
 - **Public awareness campaign:** Launch a campaign to promote safer right-turn practices and remind drivers to yield to oncoming traffic.

Risk:

Without intervention, the high frequency of accidents at the Weeroona Avenue & Caledonia Street intersection may persist, resulting in continued vehicle damage and potential injury to drivers and passengers.

Approval:

Name: ?

Position: ?