

## **1. LARA TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PLAN 2019 - 2029**

**Source:** City Services – Engineering Services  
**Director:** Guy Wilson-Browne  
**Portfolio:** Transportation and Connections

### **Purpose**

1. To seek Council adoption of the Lara Traffic Management Plan 2019-2029.

### **Background**

2. The Lara Traffic Management Plan (the Plan) commenced following feedback from the communities of Lara and Little River about traffic safety and access issues, particularly associated with truck movements and increased volumes of traffic on local roads.
3. Data collected to support the Plan included traffic volumes, vehicle speeds, road hierarchies, road condition, quarry access, quarry haulage routes and road accident statistics.
4. Three phases (stages) of community engagement were undertaken between October 2018 and October 2019.
5. Following thirteen community forums and on-line 'Have Your Say', over 350 comments were raised, across a range of transport and infrastructure topics. These issues are consolidated into 179 related items for respective agencies in an Action Plan. The 179 actions are grouped into 17 priority categories. Refer **Attachment 3**.
6. Following community input, the revised Plan has now been finalised for consideration by Council.

### **Key Matters**

7. Some priority actions are complete or in progress in the 2019-2020 traffic management program.
8. Some priority actions will be referred to the 2020-2021 annual traffic management works program. Major projects identified in the Plan that fall outside of the annual works program will be referred to the budget for funding.
9. The Plan recognises the need for revisions to truck routes through Lara. This is a priority action in the Plan and will require cooperation from the Department of Transport to proceed with the implementation of preferred truck routes, on local and State roads, within the Lara township and surrounding areas.
10. Engagement from the community to-date has enabled preliminary work to commence on the revision of truck routes to, within and around Lara. Further confirmation and community engagement on the truck route revision implementation will commence as a priority action.
11. The Plan also recognises broader traffic management issues associated with growth in Lara and the surrounding areas. The Geelong Growth Areas Transport Infrastructure Strategy will further clarify and aim to resolve transport infrastructure challenges arising for communities within existing and future precincts.

**Cr Grzybek moved, Cr Aitken seconded -**

**12. That Council:**

- 12.1 Adopt the Lara Traffic Management Plan 2019-2029 (Attachment 3);**
- 12.2 Note the actions that have been implemented this financial year (refer to Attachment 2);**
- 12.3 Refer priority actions to the 2020-2021 budget;**
- 12.4 Support the commencement of revisions to truck routes in Lara and the associated implementation; and**
- 12.5 Request the Chief Executive Officer to write to the Minister for Transport seeking their commitment to support the revisions to truck routes in Lara.**

**Carried.**

## **Attachment 1**

### ***Financial Implications***

1. The priority actions will be referred to current and future programs and budgets. Depending on scale, some of these works have already been completed or in progress within existing 2019-20 programs, others will require specific budget bids or external funding.

### ***Community Engagement***

2. The need for the Lara Traffic Management Plan has been identified by the community for many years, as early as 2017.
3. The City formally commenced engagement and opened an online 'Have Your Say' page from 26 September 2018 through to 22 October 2018. Hard copies were made available on request and written submissions could be mailed in.
4. The first stage of community engagement sessions was held on Wednesday 10 October 2018 (10am-12pm and 4pm-7pm) and on Saturday 13 October 2018 (9am-12pm). During these three sessions 66 people visited the forum and 111 people provided comments via on-line 'Have Your Say' survey.
5. The first stage of community consultations assisted forming the draft action plan which was presented to Council at the 12 March 2019 Community Focus Council Meeting. The resolution noted further consultation on the draft plan and for the final revised plan to be presented back to Council for adoption.
6. The second stage of community engagement sessions consultations commenced 25 March 2019. Community sessions were held on 28 March (4.30pm-7.30pm), 4 April (9am-12pm), 10 April (10am-1pm and 4pm-7pm) and 1 May (10am-12pm and 5pm-7.30pm). During these five sessions 65 people visited the forum and 69 people provided further comments via on-line 'Have Your Say' survey.
7. The third stage of community engagement sessions was a forum held on the 30 May (7pm-9.30pm). Representatives from Regional Roads Victoria and City of Greater Geelong presented updates on current action plans. More than 100 people attended this forum.
8. Following the Council resolution on 13 August 2019, the draft Plan was released for community comment from 28 August to 30 October 2019. The engagement also included two drop-in sessions on 28 August and 18 September.
9. Comments received on the draft plan related to the format of the plan, more information on timing of actions, clearer definition of themes and reference to the growth and development of Lara and the impact that has on traffic volumes. These comments have been incorporated into the revised plan (**Attachment 3**).

### ***Social Equity Considerations***

10. There are no social equity implications arising from the subject of this report.

### ***Policy/Legal/Statutory Implications***

11. There is no policy, legal or statutory implications arising from the subject of this report.

***Alignment to Council Plan***

12. Integrated Transport Connections: Aim – *Establish a traffic management plan for the northern growth corridor (including Lara).*

***Conflict of Interest***

13. There is no officer direct or indirect interest in the preparation of this report.

***Risk Assessment***

14. With expansive growth in and around Lara, the safe and efficient movement could be compromised if actions are not Implemented. This Lara Traffic Management Plan identifies the short-term risks facing Lara and prioritises those actions required in the short term.
15. Further work on long-term issues associated actions is required to identify mitigation measures.

***Environmental Implications***

16. There are no environmental implications associated with the outcomes of this report.

## **Attachment 2**

### ***Lara Traffic Study Plan –Actions***

1. Following community consultation, 179 actions have been developed for implementation of further investigation (refer to Plan - **Attachment 3**). From the 179 actions, there are number of priority actions which are identified in this report.
2. Grouped into 17 categories, the actions can be classified as:
  - 2.1. Localised infrastructure works – which can be delivered within current and existing programs, or may require further Council budget bids to contribute funds for delivery; and
  - 2.2. Larger scale planning or capital works – which typically need further investigation and planning to determine how and what solution will resolve the current, and future, transport challenges.
3. The 17 action categories are:
  1. Truck movements through, within and around Lara township;
  2. ‘Six ways’ intersection;
  3. Grade separation of the Geelong rail line and McClelland Avenue;
  4. Review of speed limits on local roads;
  5. Lara Station car parking;
  6. Intersection upgrades (various);
  7. Pedestrian and cyclist safety crossing upgrades;
  8. Footpath works;
  9. Lighting works;
  10. Traffic management works;
  11. Drainage works;
  12. Road maintenance works;
  13. Road upgrade works;
  14. Bridge condition works;
  15. Environmental works;
  16. Landscape works; and
  17. Public transport.
4. The following actions have been either completed, or in process of approval and implementation:
  - 4.1. Speed Limit changes to: McClelland Avenue, Hicks Street, Mill Road, Heales Road, Lara Six Ways;
  - 4.2. McClelland Road right turn lands;
  - 4.3. Broderick Road / Heales Road traffic signal installation;
  - 4.4. Little River Ripley Road / Kirks Bridge Road traffic island installation;

- 4.5. Installation of warning signs to improve safety at Alfred and Fisher Street; and
- 4.6. Relocate flood gates and associated signage to improve safety on Windermere Road.
5. Immediate priority actions have been identified from community engagement and officer investigations:
  - 5.1. Complete review and implementation of speed limit changes;
  - 5.2. Commence working with the Department of Transport on implementing revision to truck routes to, within and around Lara township;
  - 5.3. Advocate to the Department of Transport on an update for the 'Six-Ways' intersection upgrades, including timing and commitment to construction;
  - 5.4. Commence construction of McClelland Road right turn lanes and speed limit reduction;
  - 5.5. The Director of City Services to write to the Department of Transport for the design and cost estimate of the McClelland Avenue rail grade separation and commitment to delivery timeframes;
  - 5.6. In partnership with school principals, develop *Safe Travel to School* routes for Lara primary schools;
  - 5.7. Review all local area traffic management requests, and implement where required; and
  - 5.8. Immediately review the traffic management plan associated with the goal development on Bacchus Marsh Road to ensure travel routes do not use Lara township as a thoroughfare.
6. Understanding the significant growth that has occurred and is projected to occur in Lara and other growth areas in Geelong, the City has already commenced the Geelong Growth Area Transport Infrastructure Strategy, in partnership with the Department of Transport and the Victorian Planning Authority.
7. This strategy will inform how the growth occurring now, and in the future, will impact the transport network across the entire Geelong municipality. This will give the City and Department of Transport a clear understanding of congestion in the network and required future upgrades.
8. The project seeks to achieve four key objectives:
  - 8.1. To identify the major transport (road and rail) infrastructure requirements to support the ultimate development scenario in Geelong's growth areas;
  - 8.2. To identify the requirements and staging of infrastructure based on modelled growth scenarios at intervals of: 2018 (base case), 2031, 2041 and 2051;
  - 8.3. To deliver reporting material, communication material and advocacy documentation to facilitate local and state infrastructure funding and delivery; and
  - 8.4. To form the basis for the identification of mechanisms that may secure a growth area infrastructure contribution for Geelong.

**Attachment 3**

***Lara Traffic Study Action Plan 2019 - 2029***