



11 September 2025

**Subject:** Urgent Safety Concerns – Park Road / Merton Road Pedestrian Crossing

To: Cr Danita Perry, Acting Chair of Infrastructure for Brisbane,

I write to raise urgent and significant safety concerns regarding the pedestrian crossing on Park Road, at the corner of Merton Road, adjacent to Dutton Park State School, and to request your immediate action as Acting Chair of Infrastructure for Brisbane.

The crossing sits at the crest of a hill, meaning approaching drivers from both directions have restricted sight lines. Due to the length of approach on both sides of the crest, this crossing faces the following challenges:

- Limited visibility: the rise in the road blocks drivers' view of the crossing and anyone waiting to cross.
- Reduced stopping distance: drivers often brake abruptly, or not at all, because they only see the hazard at the last moment.
- Unpredictable traffic flow: motorists may approach at normal or higher speeds, unaware they are about to encounter a pedestrian crossing.
- Higher vulnerability for pedestrians: children, residents, families, and the School Crossing Supervisor are exposed to sudden and unpredictable danger.

Adding to these challenges are the high volumes of car movement on Park Road, classified as a district road between two arterial roads (Ipswich Road and Annerley Road) within Brisbane City Council's City Plan 2014. When combined, these factors mean the crossing fails in its most basic purpose - to provide a safe, predictable point of interaction between pedestrians and vehicles. Instead, it creates an inherently unsafe environment.

The outcomes are clear:

- Drivers are forced into situations requiring sudden, dangerous decisions.
- The School Crossing Supervisor is repeatedly required to step into oncoming traffic without adequate line of sight.
- Children and families face daily risks that could result in serious injury or worse.

This is not simply a matter of inconvenience; it is a serious and significant safety hazard with foreseeable consequences. It is only a matter of time before a preventable incident occurs if no intervention is made.

Over the years, the Dutton Park State School P&C has proactively advocated for an upgrade to this crossing with both Council and State authorities. Unfortunately, all explored options have been rejected. As the local councillor, I have supported the P&C's advocacy and resident concerns, and I have pursued measures to improve safety in the surrounding area, including:

- Slow for Sams (2024) - Park Road and Annerley Road
- Enhanced road markings (2024) - Park Road

Cr Trina Massey  
Councillor for the Gabba Ward



2/63 Annerley Rd, Woolloongabba  
thegabba.ward@bcc.qld.gov.au  
(07) 3403 2165

trinamassey.com  
fb.com/crtrinamassey  
instagram.com/trinamasseygabba

I acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land which we live and work on,  
the Jagera and Turrbal peoples. Sovereignty was never ceded.



- Installation of signage and lights for both approaches (currently in progress via the Suburban Enhancement Fund, 2025)

While these measures provide some safety benefits, they do not enable the crossing to fulfill its primary purpose - to provide a safe, predictable point for pedestrians. Only a proper upgrade can achieve this.

On 17 July 2025, the Dutton Park State School community and I were informed that the Crossing Supervisor would no longer be stationed at Park Road. Nearly two months later, no replacement has been provided, further increasing the likelihood of a future tragic event.

On 2 September 2025, you expressed a willingness to work collaboratively on local infrastructure issues. I welcome that commitment and bring to you this most urgent request for action to protect the safety of children and the community.

I trust that community and children's safety is as important to you as it is to parents, residents, and myself. I look forward to your reply and to immediate steps to address this critical safety issue.

Regards,

Trina Massey  
Councillor for the Gabba Ward

