Community Engagement Feedback Report

Zebra Crossing - Marlborough Street / Esplanade, Henley Beach

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Prepared by:
Kath Mardon, Community Engagement Officer
Ph: 8408 1270, kmardon@charlessturt.sa.gov.au
1. Project Overview

The Marlborough Street and Esplanade intersection in Henley Beach is located 100m west of the Star of the Sea School, which generates a high level of pedestrians and bicycle riders. Parents of school students often use the car parking spaces along the Esplanade and Marlborough Street to pick up and drop off their children. There have been concerns raised from members of the community that drivers travelling northbound along the Esplanade may not be aware that pedestrians and bicycle riders frequently cross the road at this location.

Through investigations, it has been identified that sight restrictions could be a potential safety risk. We are therefore proposing to realign the ramps at this intersection and install a ‘Zebra Crossing’ to ensure a safe crossing point for children and other pedestrians.

A zebra crossing is a type of pedestrian crossing used in many places around the world. Its distinguishing feature is alternating dark and light stripes on the road surface, similar to the coat of a zebra. A zebra crossing gives priority to pedestrians and bicycle riders using the footpath over vehicles and cyclists on the road.

This community engagement report summarises the feedback received.

2. Community Engagement Approach

We undertook consultation from 11 September to 2 October 2019 with packages (Appendix A) sent directly to 78 resident and ratepayers in the project area inviting completion of a survey to determine level of support for the zebra crossing at the intersection of Esplanade/ Marlborough Street, Henley Beach.

This survey was available to be completed online through our YourSay Charles Sturt website. A corflute sign was also installed onsite to promote and seek comments from other users.
3. Consultation Feedback

During the consultation period we received 59 responses to the project proposal and following analysis of the survey responses.

The table below indicates the overall average level of support which was determined using a scale (0 – Do not support, 5 -Neutral, 10 support)

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<th>Outcome</th>
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<td>Following positive comments from the community, we intend on proceeding with the installation of the zebra crossing. An amended concept plan is attached to this report which reflects resident comments and provides 4 new additional car parking spaces in Marlborough Street. New white line marking will be installed to delineate the traffic entering and exiting Marlborough Street, along with yellow line marking to restrict cars parking in front of private driveways.</td>
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4. Next Steps

We are now finalising the detailed design of this intersection and anticipate the crossing to be constructed before the end of June 2020.

Those directly impacted by the construction will be notified closer to the time of commencing.
Appendix A
Background Information
The Marlborough Street and Esplanade intersection in Henley Beach is located 100m west of the Star of the Sea School, which generates a high level of pedestrians and bicycle riders. Parents of school students often use the car parking spaces along the Esplanade and Marlborough Street to pick up and drop off their children.

There have been concerns raised from members of the community that drivers travelling northbound along the Esplanade may not be aware that pedestrians and bicycle riders frequently cross the road at this location.

Details of the Proposal
Through investigations, it has been identified that sight restrictions could be a potential safety risk. We are therefore proposing to realign the ramps at this intersection and install a Zebra Crossing to ensure a safe crossing point for children and other pedestrians.

A Zebra Crossing is a type of pedestrian crossing used in many places around the world. Its distinguishing feature is alternating dark and light stripes on the road surface. This design helps to ensure the safety of pedestrians and bicycle riders using the footpath over vehicles and cyclists on the road.

In order to realign the crossing point away from the blind spot, the existing path will be directed north, which will result in the loss of one parking space on the western side of Marlborough Street. A minor relocation of existing seating end-bike rails will also be required. A new light would also be installed to illuminate the Zebra Crossing at night.

A concept plan explaining the proposal is enclosed for your reference.

WE WELCOME FEEDBACK FROM THE LOCAL COMMUNITY!

There are a couple of ways you can provide your comments:

- Complete a feedback form online at www.yoursaycharlessturt.com.au/esplanadecrossing
- Send your completed hard copy feedback form using the enclosed reply-paid envelope to City of Charles Sturt

All feedback related to this proposal must be received by 5pm Tuesday 8 October 2019.

We will write to you again following the completion of this public consultation period to advise you of the outcome.

For further information please contact:

Keith Mardon
Community Engagement Officer
Phone 8408 1270
email kmardon@charlessturt.sa.gov.au

Rebekah Maxwell
Acting Transport Engineer
Phone 8408 1853
email rmmaxwell@charlessturt.sa.gov.au
Proposed Pedestrian (Zebra) Crossing—Esplanade and Marlborough Street, Henley Beach

Feedback Form

To provide your feedback on this proposal, please complete the survey online at www.yoursay.charlessturt.com.au/esplanadecrossing
Alternatively, send your form back to us using the enclosed reply-paid envelope.

Feedback is due by 5pm Tuesday 9 October 2021

Your details
Please provide your name and address should we need to contact you regarding your feedback. By completing this form, you consent to the City of Charles Sturt collecting, retaining and using the personal information provided by you in line with Council’s Privacy Policy.

First Name: ___________________________ Surname: ___________________________
Address: ___________________________
Email: ___________________________
Phone: ___________________________
Your gender: ___________________________
What age group best describes you? ___________________________
Under 18: [ ] 18-24: [ ] 25-39: [ ] 40-54: [ ] 55-64: [ ] 65 plus:
Council emailed newsletter? ___________________________
Would you like to receive Council’s e-newsletter to be kept up to date with Council news? ___________________________
[I] Yes: [ ] No: [ ] I already receive it

Your feedback

To enable us to adequately capture your feedback, please complete all questions to this feedback form.

1. My interest in this proposal is: ___________________________
   - I own and live in a property in Henley Beach: [ ]
   - I rent a residential property in Henley Beach: [ ]
   - I represent a business/organisation in Henley Beach: [ ]
   - I have children that attend school or preschool in the area: [ ]
   - I am a visitor to the area: [ ]
   - I own a property within the area that I do not live in: [ ]
   Please provide address: ___________________________

2. Please indicate your level of support on the scale below for the proposed installation of a Pedestrian (Zebra) Crossing at the intersection of the Esplanade and Marlborough Street, Henley Beach: ___________________________
   Do not support: [ ] Neutral: [ ] Support: [ ]
   Please provide comments to help us understand your decision: ___________________________

3. Do you have any other comments in relation to this proposal? ___________________________

Thank you for taking the time to participate.
Consultation Concept Plan

- Relocate existing bike rails
- New 2m wide kerb ramps
- Retain existing drink fountain
- Relocate existing seating
- Zebra crossing line marking
- Realign kerb island and footpath for new Zebra crossing
- Yellow No Stopping lines
- New light pole to illuminate crossing
- Continue landscaping to delineate path
- Marlborough Street
Please provide comments to help us understand your decision

**Safety**

I fully support this proposal as it will significantly improve safety for pedestrians and bicyclists at what is a busy and potentially dangerous intersection. It will also contribute to reduced speeds on Seaview Road.

**Make crossing easier and safer**

I agree in principle but have some reservations. 1) Any car parking space lost at this section of the beach, compounds an already difficult situation, in the Henley Square precinct. Our garage entrance is on Marlborough Street and we regularly deal with cars blocking our access. This is compounded by visitors to the Real Estate agency next door, who park in the No Parking area, adjacent our garage entrance. And, it’s a nightmare at peak beach and event times. 2) Will the installation prevent cars and bicycles entering the Esplanade from Marlborough Street? This very dangerous practice occurs with increasing regularity. All traffic flowing in one direction is NOT the norm in the 17 years that we have lived here. 3) Human nature dictates that there is a real likelihood that people will continue to walk along the Marlborough Street footpath and ‘through’ the created garden area, in an effort to take the shortest route to the beach. 4) The Esplanade, from Henley Square to Marlborough Street is a narrow carriage, with parking on one side and the entrance to properties on the other. A much-debated 25 km/hr speed seems more in line with safety concerns than the existing 40 km/hr. The latter is very appropriate on Seaview Road, with 25 km/hr restrictions on school days, keeping children safe. Isn’t that what is needed, and should be considered along the Esplanade, especially on school days and at popular beach times? 5) Is it worth considering the implementation of a local and especially school, community program to educate road users and pedestrians alike about this crossing point, providing a simpler, more convenient and cost-effective solution? This crossing point has operated for a couple of decades, at least. The one variable that has changed significantly is the size of the Star Of The Sea. Any crossing at this point made by school groups and led by teachers, is handled beautifully. Unfortunately, many crossings at this point directed by parents, busy on their phones or otherwise distracted, are conducted poorly; leaving children running ahead and not supervised. We all need to make a personal effort to keep safe.

I think this is a great idea, due to increasing traffic which can make it hard to cross the road safely.

Much safer for our children to cross this busy road daily.

I have a child in a wheelchair and a small child that would benefit from the crossing

*I am not a nut as you probably think. I am so concerned for the safety of pedestrians especially children!

Families and class groups will use the crossing on a regular basis and will be safer with the crossing in place

It’s well overdue. I’ve seen too many close calls with kids running across as they are unable to see if cars are coming as the house on the corner obstructs their view. It’s an accident waiting to happen. This area is used all the time for people visiting the beach, especially children visiting the marine discovery Centre.

I walk across this site every day with my dog, it is very busy and hard to cross. I feel this is a perfect location for a zebra crossing especially with star of the sea close by

It is dangerous to cross even worse with younger kids

Regularly take my granddaughter and dog to the beach and this would be a great safe spot to cross

Improving road safety for children is very important. Please also consider the same for Henley Beach Primary school South of Henley square which also are in need of a safe way to cross Seaview Road.

Attend beach on a regular basis & crossing Seaview is often dangerous

Henley is an area with high family & children population & high pedestrian traffic. I support any move that increases pedestrian safety especially around the beach & schools in the area.

This is a major intersection of Henley Square and on my daily walks from my home address to the beach makes me feel like I’m at risk as it dangerous to cross because it is very busy with no pedestrian crossing

I believe a zebra crossing in this location would slow traffic down at all times, not just school pick-up times and make this part of the road safer for all road users.
We frequently walk the Esplanade to Grange, and traffic on this part of road is regularly travelling faster than required. This crossing will be important in improving safety of all users of the area.

Was not aware that it was an issue but do see cars travelling over the speed limit frequently on Seaview and Esplanade. Crossing at Henley Square has not been very effective - cars often speed straight through while I am trying to cross so may be worth looking at a speed hump for crossings to truly be effective.

My kids ride home from school and use that path frequently. My daughter didn’t see a car and couldn’t fully stop in time coming down the path into the esplanade and tapped the back end of a car coming around the bend.

I live at Grange and often walk from Esplanade down Marlborough St and crossing is often difficult. The crossing MUST be accompanied by decreased speed limit to 40 - currently ridiculous changes between Grange Rd and Henley Square while all feeder roads at 40.

Totally support the crossing for child safety reasons. It’s a blind corner when travelling north and cars need to be aware and slow down

Due to the house’s pedestrians coming down the hill to the esplanade cannot see the oncoming traffic. A zebra crossing would force cars to slow down and be aware of potential pedestrians.

As well as living on Marlborough Street and a child at Star of the Sea SAFETY is of concern as speed is still a factor

Safety for kids

Would increase safety when we’re crossing the road with our dogs

Please refer to my information to you mid and late last year. (I spoke to Kyre, Sam Adams and Rebecca phoned me on 21/9/18). At 3.00pm on 26/7/18 I was driving only 10km in my car past the corner of Marlborough St & Esplanade Henley Beach. A female student approx age 11 road her bike into the right back door of my moving car. This was at the high white brick wall on the corner. There has been a bike/people sign erected but too far south as drivers don’t seem to take notice of it. Also, the 40 kms sign at the southern end of the beginning of that particular stretch of the Esplanade needs to be changed to 20kms. Cars / motor-bikes shouldn’t go any faster that 10-20kms between 2.30-3.30pm weekdays as the road is filled with parked cars and children. The Zebra crossing is a good idea, but I still think there needs also to be a fence similar to train walkways so that pedestrians need to slow down at the corner. It is a long slope and children run down or ride bikes. I’m very pleased that your Council are looking into this very dangerous corner and will be interested in the outcome.

It provides a safer crossing option for parents and children of Star of the Sea School

I completely support this decision as it is definitely a spot that does not have good visibility for both pedestrians and drivers however will a zebra crossing make a difference? It seems that many drivers are not adhering to them. I have used the zebra crossing on Seaview Road (opposite Foodland / melt) many times, the majority of the time I am with my young children. I have been in a position where i have started to cross and cars have still continued to drive over the other half. Other times they just haven’t stopped and i have been stood waiting for a car to stop. If pedestrians are to receive priority on these crossings, from what i have observed it is definitely not the case. I think the council should look at how to improve the crossing mentioned as a matter of urgency before someone has a serious accident due to driver’s ignorance.

My children attend Star of the Sea and often travel to the beach with school/OSHC and have to cross that road, and we also use Marlborough Street to access the beach as a family - a zebra crossing would make it much safer as the esplanade can get extremely busy.

It’s a very busy intersection both am and pm - especially around school time. Alternatively, traffic lights would be a good idea. Same at the North Street/Seaview Road intersection

It can take many minutes- in hot weather-to cross Seaview Road. It is a dangerous intersection with traffic coming from 4 directions, often at speed

I think this is a fantastic idea as quite often cars don’t realise there maybe people crossing here. I have seen a few near misses

Required for safety of users

But there is no path on the east side. We have to cross the Esplanade to walk along the pathway. Perhaps I have misunderstood the plan. But to get to the Zebra crossing we will have to either cross or walk along the road

The more safe crossing sites the better. I have lived here for over 20 years and the traffic has greatly increased

Coming along Marlborough Street to the Esplanade is a downwards slope and due to the large wall you come out blind so anything to make this a safer crossing is a fantastic initiative.
As a pedestrian in the area I have found myself in a dangerous situation quite a few times. It’s a busy area with lots of children motorists often driving too fast for comfort, needed before someone gets hurt. Also I think the school crossing on corner of Marlborough and Seaview road should be turned into zebra crossing. It’s such a busy spot motorists never stop to let you cross. When you have kids and a dog and beach trolley in summer it’s so dangerous to cross esp. in summer and also when people are crossing from opposite direction. As a group of our school children visit the local beach, the zebra crossing will increase the safety of children as they cross the road. The same can be said as children arrive to school and leave from school.

Do you have any other comments in relation to this proposal?

I am grateful to have the opportunity have my say about two very real problems at this crossing point: 1) an unrealistic speed limit on a narrow carriageway, bordered by parking and ‘front doors’; and 2) the ongoing and increasing danger of vehicles and bicycles being able to move in both directions at this intersection of Esplanade and Marlborough Streets. It has been downright frightening after having looked right and left along a one-way street, only to look right again and be confronted by a car or cyclist entering from the left. This section of the Esplanade is a one-way carriageway EXITING at the intersection of Marlborough Street, not entering.

Read my letter. These roads are generally becoming extremely dangerous especially in summer with hoons speeding biked the wrong way. *My proposed Zebra crossing to remind idiots that both ways people are crossing (respondent provided a sketch of North Street/Esplanade/Marlborough Street intersections with Zebra crossing at North Street/Esplanade intersection and Marlborough Street/Esplanade intersection

We look forward to the crossing eventuating

Loss of a car park is not ideal. Parking is very challenging in Henley beach over summer. I can’t even get into the supermarket to do my shopping as the spaces are all taken by beachgoers. Can you provide a safe crossing while retaining the car park??

Great proposal

Given the blind spot coming down that path towards the esplanade I’m still not sure the pedestrians/bikes or even the cars can see anything coming in the opposite direction - even with a zebra crossing. The issue more on the east side where housing is - not the western beachfront path

Qu 4 does not relate to people living just out of area and using Seaview Road daily.

Should be actioned ASAP

No, other than I strongly support the proposal

Can’t happen quick enough!

I also strongly believe there should be a zebra crossing or even lights (maybe the ones at Star of the sea crossing could be switched on permanently) to allow people, in particularly families to cross Seaview Road safety. I had a near miss with my 6-year-old only weeks ago & in summer Seaview Road gets extremely busy & crossing is always dangerous. This would be my recommendation even more so than the proposed crossing. But both would be even better. Please don’t hesitate to phone me on [redacted] to discuss. We have lived here for a number of years & every time we cross Seaview Road from Marlborough Street I comment on the need for a crossing as it is extremely unsafe.

We urgently need speed signs and the maximum should be 30km hour

I’d be very happy to see more signs directing cyclists to RING THEIR BELL before passing or overtaking pedestrians. Thank you!

If there is not adequate support for the proposal to go ahead would it be an option to change the current school crossing on Seaview Road to a zebra crossing that is monitored at school drop-off and pick-up times

The sooner this could be achieved the better!

I support the proposal

Where are you relocating the 2 exiting seats to? And the bike rails? I am concerned that they will be placed directly in front of my house at [redacted]. Please advise - I do not want to see the seats or the back of people while sitting out the front of my property! (nor do my neighbours for that matter)
Key Themes / FAQ’s

+ The design will improve pedestrian safety.

+ Improvements here are well overdue, as the current ramp location is dangerous due to the blind spot.

- The treatment is excessive and/or unnecessary. Pedestrians should just look out for oncoming cars.
Due to the location of the current pram ramps and buildings in the area, pedestrians are unable to see oncoming vehicles until they are almost on the roadway, and pedestrians/bicycle/scooter riders are often forced to come to an abrupt stop.

? I’m not sure that pedestrians/bicycle riders will be able to see on-coming vehicles, even with the installation of a zebra crossing.
As part of these works, the pram ramps will be relocated away from the existing blind spot, which will increase visibility between vehicles and pedestrians/bicycle/scooter riders.

- I don’t like the proposal as it removes valuable on-street car parking.
We have heard your concerns and have re-designed the line marking in Marlborough Street to include an additional 4 parking spaces and have included a ‘turnaround’ bay, resulting in a net gain of +2 parking spaces as a result of the project. We will also be clarifying the ‘no stopping’ area in front of the private driveways in Marlborough Street with some additional yellow line marking.

? The real issue is crossing Seaview Road/Marlborough Street. There should be a zebra crossing across Seaview Road.
This portion of Seaview Road is an arterial road under the care and control of the Department of Planning Transport and Infrastructure. While we can advocate changes to DPTI, any changes to this road would be at their discretion.

? I like the proposal, but I think you will need a fence to stop pedestrians from continuing to cross where the blind spot is.
We did consider installing fencing to direct pedestrians to the new pram ramps (away from the blind spot), however, fencing is not an aesthetically pleasing solution. We have looked at alternative designs which will extend the landscaping along the Esplanade to block access to the road in this location. We feel that this measure, along with relocating the existing seats to the same spot across the road will prevent pedestrians from crossing here.

? I think some other infrastructure would work better here (i.e. traffic lights or road humps, etc.).
A zebra crossing with relocated pram ramps a cost-effective physical solution to improve visibility of pedestrians and vehicles in this location and improve pedestrian safety. Traffic lights and other infrastructure would increase the cost of the project significantly and the cost may not be warranted for such an isolated location.

? Will this stop cyclists from riding the wrong way down the esplanade, as this is dangerous.
We have revised the design to include a cyclist ramp, which will allow cyclists travelling west along Marlborough Street to cross the road and access the shared use path along the Esplanade to allow them to continue south. We will include “Cyclists Use Ramp” and “No Entry” signage to prohibit cyclists from travelling south along the road on the Esplanade. Cyclists wanting to travel south on road (rather than using the shared use path) will be required to use Seaview Road.

? Where will you be moving the existing seats and bike rails to?
We have clarified in the revised plan that the seats and bike rails are shown in their new locations. The drinking fountain is not being moved.

+ Several residents took the time to share their own experiences of witnessing near-misses at this location and expressed their gratitude for the project.