

Cr Nicole Johnston

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Media Release

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Quirk Reneges on Juliette St Upgrade

Just two months after the Council Budget was handed down, Lord Mayor, Graham Quirk, has reneged on his budget allocation of \$1.26m for the Juliette Street, Annerley road safety upgrade.

Councillor Johnston said the Lord Mayor was putting lives at risk by failing to fund the vital safety upgrade.

“On 12 June the Lord Mayor announced \$1.26m in funding for the Juliette Street safety upgrade and less than two months later has reneged,” Councillor Johnston said.

“Since 2011 there have been 23 crashes, many requiring drivers to be cut from their cars and hospitalisation. In addition, Council’s official records show 45 accidents between 2004 and 2009.”

“How many more lives have to be put at risk before Council acts?”

This is second time that the Lord Mayor has cancelled the project.

In the 2010-11 Council Budget \$770,000 was allocated to the project. This funding was cut in response to flood recovery needs. All funding in 2010-11 was to be provided by Council.

“Since this project was first announced the cost has escalated by \$490,000 and dozens more accidents have occurred. Juliette Street is a Council road and the Lord Mayor must act to improve road safety in this busy area,” Councillor Johnston said.

Councillor Johnston said she was appalled that a project that was fully funded by Council in 2010-11, was being treated as a political football in an election year, with Council claiming it could not proceed without federal funding.

Councillor Johnston said numerous projects with lower crash histories had been fully funded by Council over the past few years, including the King Avenue and Sherbrooke Road intersection and the Old Blunder Road and Pacific Parade upgrades.

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