



Dedicated to a better Brisbane

18 April 2016

Councillor Nicole Johnston
Councillor for Tennyson Ward
180 Fairfield Road
FAIRFIELD QLD 4103

Dear Councillor Johnston

Thank you for your recent correspondence of 13, 16, 17, 19 and 22 March 2016 raising concerns about the Graceville Suburban Centre Improvement Project (SCIP).

I can assure you the construction of a SCIP requires all new facilities to be designed to meet current Australian Standards. Unfortunately, the previous car parking arrangement, driveway and footpath design at the Graceville Centre did not comply with these standards. However, the newly installed car parking, footpaths and pedestrian crossings have been designed to the relevant Australian Standards.

The design has also been developed in response to community and trader requests to maximise the number of compliant car parking spaces, maintain the two disabled parking bays and improve vehicle and pedestrian safety within the compact shopping strip on Honour Avenue and Bank Road.

I understand prior to the SCIP works there were two disabled car parking spaces located within the centre. One was an indented bay on the northern side of Bank Road and the second was situated parallel to the kerb outside the bank. In order to meet Australian Standards, the new layout relocates the disabled parking bays to the southern side of Bank Road and to the indented bay on Honour Avenue. A chevron-marked unloading area, adjacent to the disabled parking bay is also required for compliance. The width, layout, number and indented location of the disabled car parking bays are in accordance with the Australian Standards.

I have been told that prior to finalising the design for the SCIP, consultation on centre car parking was undertaken with the Honour Avenue Graceville SCIP Community Representative Group (CRG). In addition, Council completed an on-street parking survey with the centre's property owners and traders and developed a finalised parking arrangement based on the feedback received. These consultations resulted in the Honour Avenue Graceville SCIP CRG, property owners and traders supporting the revised design.

With respect to your request to alter the parking layout, I can advise that widening the bays would result in the overall loss of car parking spaces. I am also aware the new indented parking bays are set out at 90 degrees, as the previous 70 degree parking spaces were considered unsafe. This is due to the blind spots, created when parking and reversing at an angle, which increases the risk of collision, particularly between motorists and cyclists. The new layout also allows vehicle access from both traffic directions.

I can confirm that since your concerns were raised, the car parking design has been thoroughly reviewed. Again I would like to reiterate that the design meets with Australian Standards and, as such, will not be further revisited or altered.

I am pleased to advise the SCIP works are progressing well and the impending installation of the final line marking layout and signs will make the new car parking layout easier for drivers to understand and use. Pedestrian refuges are also being installed in the side streets, at the junctions of Honour Avenue within the centre, which will provide safer crossing points.

In regards to the concerns about construction timing raised by Mr Andrew Owen, after discussion with the project team I can confirm Council's Field Services Group have been on site to undertake site establishment works prior to the beginning of night work.

Council has two crews currently involved in delivering the works, a day and a night shift, in order to reduce the inconvenience to local residents and traders during the construction. I am pleased to advise the majority of SCIP construction works are currently undertaken at night from 7pm to 5am, Sunday to Thursday and day works begins from 7am.

Noisy works such as saw cutting and rock breaking will be undertaken prior to 10:30pm. In instances where this could affect the peak trading hours of restaurants and businesses, Council may conduct this work prior to 7pm.

If you have any further enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Vicki Martin, Principal Urban Design, City Planning and Economic Development on 3403 8888.

I appreciate you contacting me about this matter and trust the above information assists.

Yours sincerely



Colin Jensen
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER