

Cr Nicole Johnston

Councillor for Tennyson Ward



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The Hon Lord Mayor, Adrian Schrinner
Lord.Mayor@brisbane.qld.gov.au

Dear Lord Mayor

I am writing to express my concern about your proposed feasibility study into duplication of the Walter Taylor Bridge. You secretly commenced this process last year, without any consultation with me as the local representative or our local community.

As part of this process, you are considering creating a "freight route" through Chelmer, Graceville, Sherwood, Corinda and Oxley. Given the proximity of the Brisbane Markets, Rocklea, this could result in hundreds of extra trucks per day on local roads. I am strongly opposed to your decision.

The starting point should not be simply duplication of the Walter Taylor Bridge. No other options have been considered and that is short-sighted. During school and university terms there is significant congestion on the Bridge and Coonan St but as your initial scoping study shows, duplicating the Bridge will simply attract more traffic as you make it easier for through traffic from the outer southern and south-western suburbs to get to the University of Queensland and the inner city.

The starting point should be an assessment of the problem, not just pre-determining one solution, including:

- regional, district and local traffic origin and destination studies;
- induced demand analysis identifying potential impacts on Oxley Rd, Honour Ave and side-streets;
- school/university term and non-term mobility studies;
- school/university transport solutions;
- public transport improvements including a feasibility study for city cats and a bus interchange adjoining Indooroopilly Rail Station; and
- the alternate Bridge locations and types.

Council should be investing in traffic safety and congestion-busting improvements to make the Oxley Rd corridor safer for local residents now. I urge you to prioritise intersection upgrades at The Graceville Fiveways (listed for delivery in the LGIP now), Cliveden Ave, Corinda and Oxley Station Rd, Oxley among others. Council should also be working cooperatively with the State Government to widen not raise the low rail Bridge separating Sherwood and Corinda. Council should aim to ensure Oxley Rd is an effective and safe arterial for district traffic, not a major arterial link for through traffic.

I urge you to take a step back from the presumptive decision to duplicate the Walter Taylor Bridge, undertake a broader assessment and publish a green paper as a starting point for an informed conversation with our community.

Yours sincerely

Nicole Johnston
Councillor for Tennyson Ward