

Creamery Road, Toolern Vale – Road Reconstruction Consultation Summary

Community consultation for the reconstruction of Creamery Road was carried out between 24 May and 18 June 2021. Letters were sent to residents in the area advertising the consultation period. The consultation was also advertised on social media and posters were provided to the school and the Toolern Vale General Store. The school and the CFA were consulted separately.

Thirty-four responses were received with the project receiving significant support (average 3.83 out of 5) with the main comments in support referring to the increase in liveability and safety around the school.

The major issues raised by respondents all related to the adjacent roads not being reconstructed at the same time as Creamery Road (including Mechanics Road, Burtons Road, and the rest of Creamery Road).

Further issues raised included concerns with dust, the town having an unfinished look, and the increase of traffic on Creamery Road during school drop-off and pick-up times.

Council is currently proceeding with the design of all the adjacent Toolern Vale roads while construction is planned for Council's 2027/2028 Capital Works Plan.

Below are other items raised along with Council's response:

- **The width of the curve at the east end of Creamery Road.** The proposed curve design meets the standard for two-way traffic.
- **Proposed trees blocking resident's views while exiting properties.** Sight distance for resident's crossovers will be maintained.
- **Increased rainfall run-off due to construction.** This project includes drainage improvements in the area that will address stormwater runoff concerns.
- **Proposed footpath crossing at Creamery Road near Diggers Rest-Coimadai Road is dangerous at the curve.** This is the only option due to site constraints. Traffic Engineers have reviewed the location and deemed it acceptable.
- **Perceived impact of the proposed design on Toolern Vale CFA.** Toolern Vale CFA were consulted with and their concerns were addressed.
- **The crossover next to the school is required for fire access to the ford.** This crossover will be maintained.
- **Single property issues** which will be addressed accordingly.
- **A request for other roads in the vicinity of Toolern Vale to be sealed.** Unsealed roads are assessed and prioritised by Council as they will require Council funding for sealing. These roads are considered through the annual budget development process.
- **A request for a zebra or school crossing.** The suitability of this was assessed and the currently proposed arrangements are suitable and safe based on traffic and pedestrian volumes.
- **A request for the school overflow car parking at the CFA to be sealed.** This is not Council land and is not in this project scope.
- **A request for pedestrian crossing lights to be installed on Diggers Rest-Coimadai Road.** Council will discuss this with the Department of Transport as this is a state arterial road.
- **A request for the budget allocated towards the proposed roundabout, footpath, and landscaping to be used on sealing the remaining adjacent roads.** A roundabout is the most appropriate intersection treatment. The savings from the removal of footpaths and landscaping would be minimal.
- **A request for the current speed limit to be dropped to 40km/hr along all the adjacent roads.** The default 50km/h is in line with State Speed Signing Guidelines. Any proposed changes will be reviewed as part of the wider road network speed limit review and should a further reduction be identified it will be communicated to the wider community at that time.