

Precinct resolution

PRECINCT: Clovelly Precinct

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MEETING DATE: 14 August 2023

FILE: F2005/00497

ACTIONED TO: Tony Lehmann, Manager Integrated Transport

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 14082023(1)

Resolution:

Resolution 14082023(1): That the Randwick Traffic Committee be requested to consider the 5 problems identified at the corner of Clovelly Road and Fern & Mount Street and the 2 recommendations of the Precinct Committee.

Traffic concerns at the corner of Clovelly Road and Fern & Mount Streets:

1. The intersection has high traffic volumes which make exiting Mount street onto or across Clovelly Road extremely difficult. In particular at peak morning periods it is difficult to make this entry in a safe manner.
2. The STOP sign on Fern Street & Clovelly Road is regularly ignored by drivers, which makes crossing Fern street extremely risky.
3. The high volume of traffic on Clovelly Road and the proximity of the pedestrian crossing to the intersection requires maximum caution when being used. Due to the difficulty for cars to exit Fern Street and Mount street they often use speed to exit these streets and are then approaching the pedestrian crossing and are unable to stop quickly.
4. With the large number of shops on Clovelly Road in this area there are many trucks making deliveries. This then reduces visibility for cars when exiting the cross streets. In particular, on both sides of Mount Street when trucks park close to Clovelly Road there are obstructions to drivers' visibility, making entry to Clovelly Road dangerous.
5. No pedestrian crossings are on Fern Street & Clovelly Road or Mount Street & Clovelly Road making crossing the roads extremely dangerous. In particular for people with prams and older people crossing safely at these points is difficult.

The recommendations of the Committee to improve driver and pedestrian safety are:

1. Install a roundabout at the intersection
2. Install Pedestrian crossings on Fern Street & Clovelly Road and Mount Street & Clovelly Road

Council response:

Thank you for relaying to Council, the concerns of some community members regarding the Clovelly Road / Mount Street / Fern Street intersection. To set the scene, the Precinct would be aware that in mid-2019 the Council improved the situation at this intersection by shifting slightly west, the Clovelly Road pedestrian crossing. Additionally, this 'zebra' crossing (paint only) was converted to a 'wombat' crossing (a pedestrian crossing placed upon a raised platform). The raised pedestrian crossing at the intersection served the purpose of slowing vehicles and also increasing the visibility of pedestrians due to the increased height. The results from Australian research shows that such raised crossings can result in a

reduction in mean speed of up to 8 km/h. Also, at Australian sites where these facilities have been installed, there has typically been a 45% reduction in vehicle-pedestrian crashes, a 40% reduction in casualty crashes and a 30% reduction in serious and minor injury crashes.

In consideration of the quite large volumes of traffic passing along Clovelly Road (and to a lesser extent along Fern and Mount Streets) this intersection does not have a poor crash rate – and the installed raised crossing is likely assisting in keeping the local crash rate low.

In fact, an examination of the most recently available crash data indicates that there have been only two crashes reported at the subject site; in the five years through to 30 June, 2022.

Crash No.1:

At 11:40am on Saturday 16th September, 2017, a 52 year old male, from the Randwick area, was riding a motor scooter – on his own – easterly along Clovelly Road, when a light truck, driven by a 36 year old man (on his own) from the Bondi area, emerged northbound from Mount Street, and the two vehicles collided. The sealed surface was dry and the road has a straight alignment; there was no particular safety hazard evident and no temporary traffic control was in place. It was almost midday and the weather was fine. The crash did not occur during school travel times. However, the crash did result in one minor injury to the scooter rider. Neither of the vehicles caught fire and neither required towing. No pedestrians, or pedal cyclist were involved in the crash and the crash was not determined as being related to excessive speed nor fatigue. Also, the crash was not related to brake failure or fault, steering failure or fault, tyre failure or fault (blow out or thrown tread), tyre tread smooth, wheel, axle or suspension failure or fault, towing or coupling fault or separation, headlamp failure or fault, rear lamp or clearance lamp failure or fault, vehicle with insecure or projecting load, vehicle overloaded, or any other vehicle equipment failure or fault.

Crash No.2:

At 12:05pm on Friday 10th May, 2019, a 20 year old male, from the Randwick area, was riding a motor cycle – without a passenger – easterly along Clovelly Road, when, for reasons unknown, he left the carriageway and struck a parked car some 10 metres east of Mount Street. It was just after midday; the weather was overcast, and the sealed surface was wet. The road has a straight alignment. The crash did not occur during school travel times. However, the crash did result in a serious injury to the motorcyclist. Neither of the vehicles caught fire and neither required towing. No pedestrians, or pedal cyclist were involved in the crash and the crash was not determined as being related to excessive speed nor fatigue. Also, the crash was not related to brake failure or fault, steering failure or fault, tyre failure or fault (blow out or thrown tread), tyre tread smooth, wheel, axle or suspension failure or fault, towing or coupling fault or separation, headlamp failure or fault, rear lamp or clearance lamp failure or fault, vehicle with insecure or projecting load, vehicle overloaded, or any other vehicle equipment failure or fault.

With regard to the installation of a roundabout or not, my advice to the Council is as follows. Currently, our two preferred north / south routes through your neighbourhood are via Carrington Road and via Arden Street. If we were to make it easier for north / south motorists to travel through this intersection (by, say, installing a roundabout), we would likely see a significant increase in north / south traffic volumes along Fern Street and Mount Street. Given the curvilinear and steep nature of Mount Street, and, given the challenging intersection of Fern Street and Albion Street, I do not believe that (from a road safety perspective) we should be encouraging more traffic along these streets. Also, given the primarily residential nature of Fern Street and Mount Street, I consider that we shouldn't take action which would result in poorer residential amenity - due to likely significant increased traffic flows along both Mount and Fern Streets.

In the longer term, there are traffic improvements proposed through the [Clovelly Road Masterplan](#) process.

Council contact

Tony Lehmann

Manager Integrated Transport
22 October 2023