

SUBMISSION TO THE INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

1. **FILE NUMBER**

CA20/805974 and CA20/1280124

2. **TITLE**

Petitions requesting direct northbound access into the Sikh Temple at 101 Lemke Road, Taigum

3. **ISSUE/PURPOSE**

To respond to the petitions requesting direct northbound access into the Sikh Temple at 101 Lemke Road, Taigum.

4. **PROPONENT**

Marie Gales, Manager, Transport Planning and Operations, Brisbane Infrastructure

5. **SUBMISSION PREPARED BY**

Damian Burke, Senior Strategic Transport Planner, Transport Planning and Operations, Brisbane Infrastructure

6. **FOR RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL**

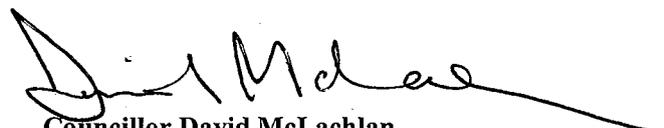
For recommendation to Council

7. **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the information in this submission be noted and the draft response, as set out in Attachment A, be sent to the head petitioner.



**Marie Gales
MANAGER
TRANSPORT PLANNING AND OPERATIONS
BRISBANE INFRASTRUCTURE**



**Councillor David McLachlan
CHAIR
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

8. **BACKGROUND**

Two petitions have been received requesting direct northbound access into the Sikh Temple at 101 Lemke Road, Taigum. The first petition (CA20/805974) contains 950 signatures. Of the petitioners, 727 live in various suburbs of the City of Brisbane and 223 live outside the City of Brisbane. The second petition (CA20/1280124) contains 20 signatures. Of the petitioners, 18 live in various suburbs of the City of Brisbane and two live outside the City of Brisbane.

Due to the volume of people attending the Sikh Temple on weekends, the petitioners are requesting a direct northbound right-turn facility into the site to facilitate access for visitors.

Lemke Road has a speed limit of 60 km/h and is classified as a suburban road in Council's road hierarchy, connecting arterial routes in and around Taigum and forming an important link in the public transport and inter-suburban freight network. Suburban roads are typically designed to carry traffic movements, rather than provide property access, and high volumes of traffic are expected. Attachment B shows a locality map.

The petitioners' request for a northbound right-turn access into the Sikh Temple has been noted. For road safety reasons, access to the Sikh Temple was restricted to a left-in/left-out turning arrangement in mid-2016 as a condition of the development approval for a place of worship on a major road.

Lemke Road was upgraded to a four-lane carriageway in mid-2018 as part of Council's Telegraph Road Corridor upgrade project. The works included the installation of a concrete median for approximately 450 metres at the northern end of Lemke Road, which restricted all access points near the Sikh Temple to a left-in/left-out turning arrangement, consistent with the development approval. Prior to Council's upgrade works, northbound to southbound U-turns could be made via the roundabout at the intersection of Telegraph, Lemke and Depot Roads. However, U-turns were deemed unsafe when the roundabout was replaced with traffic signals as part of the upgrade project which was completed in December 2018. This was due to the potential for conflicts between U-turning vehicles on Lemke Road and Depot Roads traffic using the left-turn slip lane onto Lemke Road.

The dedicated southbound right-turn access to Taigum Place Park, a district park leased by Sandgate Hawks AFL Club, is located directly opposite the access to the Sikh Temple. This dedicated turning facility was provided as part of the Lemke Road upgrade works. A signalised pedestrian crossing was also installed across Lemke Road approximately 75 metres south of the right-turn lane.

A right-turn into the Sikh Temple cannot be safely provided, as it would conflict with the right-turn lane installed to access Taigum Place Park. In response to requests from the Sikh community, project engineers from Council's City Projects Office investigated improved access to the Sikh Temple and assessed the option of realigning access roads to both the Sikh Temple and Taigum Place Park to form a four-way signalised intersection. Council's investigations indicated that the preferred location for this intersection would be further south due to the layout of Taigum Place Park's playing fields. However, the land required to construct a four-way intersection at the recommended location is not owned by the Sikh community.

The petitioners' feedback about priority provided to the Sandgate Hawks AFL Club (the Club) has been noted. During the planning and construction phases of the Telegraph Road Corridor upgrade project, members of Council's project team met with representatives for Singh Sabha and their town planner on several occasions regarding the project design and access arrangements for the Sikh Temple as part of the upgrade. Priority was not given to the Club over the Sikh Temple access. Prior to the Telegraph Road Corridor upgrade – Stage 2 project, the Club had a pre-existing access arrangement from all directions, which was maintained as part of the project.

As previously mentioned, the left-in/left-out access arrangement for the Sikh Temple was a condition of the development approval for the site. Access was provided as per the conditions of the development approval. Council understands the Sikh community has recently acquired additional properties adjacent to the temple site at 101 Lemke Road. While these properties feature driveway access points, any changes to the Sikh Temple access would be for the exclusive benefit of that property. Council does not typically construct turning lanes for private properties and does not have any plans to construct a new northbound right-turn facility into any of the access points at 101 Lemke Road or its neighbouring parcels owned by the Sikh community.

The petitioners' feedback about the inconvenience to motorists arriving from the south and departing to the north has been noted. As previously referenced, access to the Sikh Temple has been restricted to a left-in/left-out configuration since the middle of 2016 and motorists are required to find alternative routes to travel north which may involve changing their travel habits and utilising alternative routes available in the local road network.

With regard to motorists approaching from the south, Council has had previous discussions with members from the Sikh community about alternative travel options which, while requiring short increases in travel time and minor inconvenience, can allow motorists to approach the Sikh Temple from the north and turn directly into the site without the need to conduct U-turns.

It is recommended that the information in this submission be noted and the draft response, as set out in Attachment A, be sent to the head petitioner.

9. **FUNDING**

Not applicable

10. **CONSULTATION**

Councillor Jared Cassidy, Councillor for Deagon Ward, has been consulted and does not support the recommendation.

11. **CUSTOMER IMPACT**

The response will address the petitioners' concerns.

12. **OPTIONS**

Option 1 – Approve the recommendation

Option 2 – Do not approve the recommendation

Option 1 is the preferred option.

NB: If the officer's recommendation is not followed, then the reasons for departure from that recommendation should be recorded here.

Attachment A
Draft Response

Petition References: CA20/805974 and CA20/1280124

Thank you for your petitions requesting direct northbound access into the Sikh Temple located at 101 Lemke Road, Taigum.

Your request for a northbound right-turn access into the Sikh Temple has been noted. For road safety reasons, access to the Sikh Temple was restricted to a left-in/left-out turning arrangement in mid-2016 as a condition of the development approval for a place of worship on a major road.

Lemke Road was upgraded to a four-lane carriageway in mid-2018 as part of Council's Telegraph Road Corridor upgrade project. The works included the installation of a concrete median for approximately 450 metres at the northern end of Lemke Road, which restricted all access points near the Sikh Temple to a left-in/left-out turning arrangement, consistent with the development approval. Prior to Council's upgrade works, northbound to southbound U-turns could be made via the roundabout at the intersection of Telegraph, Lemke and Depot Roads. However, U-turns were deemed unsafe when the roundabout was replaced with traffic signals as part of the upgrade project which was completed in December 2018. This was due to the potential for conflicts between U-turning vehicles on Lemke Road and Depot Roads traffic using the left-turn slip lane onto Lemke Road.

The dedicated southbound right-turn access to Taigum Place Park, a district park leased by Sandgate Hawks AFL Club, is located directly opposite the access to the Sikh Temple. This dedicated turning facility was provided as part of the Lemke Road upgrade works. A signalised pedestrian crossing was also installed across Lemke Road approximately 75 metres south of the right-turn lane.

A right-turn into the Sikh Temple cannot be safely provided, as it would conflict with the right-turn lane installed to access Taigum Place Park. In response to requests from the Sikh community, project engineers from Council's City Projects Office investigated improved access to the Sikh Temple and assessed the option of realigning access roads to both the Sikh Temple and Taigum Place Park to form a four-way signalised intersection. Council's investigations indicated that the preferred location for this intersection would be further south due to the layout of Taigum Place Park's playing fields. However, the land required to construct a four-way intersection at the recommended location is not owned by the Sikh community.

Your feedback about priority provided to the Sandgate Hawks AFL Club (the Club) has been noted. During the planning and construction phases of the Telegraph Road Corridor upgrade project, members of Council's project team met with representatives for Singh Sabha and their town planner on several occasions regarding the project design and access arrangements for the Sikh Temple as part of the upgrade. Priority was not given to the Club over the Sikh Temple access. Prior to the Telegraph Road Corridor upgrade – Stage 2 project, the Club had a pre-existing access arrangement from all directions, which was maintained as part of the project.

As previously mentioned, the left-in/left-out access arrangement for the Sikh Temple was a condition of the development approval for the site. Access was provided as per the conditions of the development approval. Council understands the Sikh community has recently acquired additional properties adjacent to the temple site at 101 Lemke Road. While these properties feature driveway access points, any changes to the Sikh Temple access would be for the exclusive benefit of that property. Council does not typically construct turning lanes for private properties and does not have any plans to construct a new northbound right-turn facility into any of the access points at 101 Lemke Road or its neighbouring parcels owned by the Sikh community.

Your feedback about the inconvenience to motorists arriving from the south and departing to the north has been noted. As previously referenced, access to the Sikh Temple has been restricted to a left-in/left-out configuration since the middle of 2016 and motorists are required to find alternative routes to travel north which may involve changing their travel habits and utilising alternative routes available in the local road network.

With regard to motorists approaching from the south, Council has had previous discussions with members from the Sikh community about alternative travel options which, while requiring short increases in travel time and minor inconvenience, can allow motorists to approach the Sikh Temple from the north and turn directly into the site without the need to conduct U-turns.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Mr Damian Burke, Senior Strategic Transport Planner, Transport Planning and Operations, Brisbane Infrastructure, on (07) 3403 7676.

Attachment B
Locality map

