



Marion Sports Complex Traffic Management

CONSULTATION FINDINGS

August 2016

Background

Informal paths surrounding the Marion Sports Club facilities are well used by the community, sporting groups and local residents

The access North/South is currently restricted by use of a bollard as allowing this access will create a risk to pedestrians. We are aware the bollard is removed at times and people illegally use this access, creating dust and traffic hazards across this site.

The East/West access paths and those surrounding the sporting fields are used informally by drivers and pedestrians and we want to better understand the communities' preference in relation to formalizing or restricting these access paths.

In May 2016, Mayor Hanna attended the Bowling Club AGM. Some issues raised at this event included:

- People would like safe entry and exit onto Sturt Road
- Through traffic is creating dust issues north/south
- Entry and exit into Jasmine Avenue could be formalized

Community Engagement objectives

The objective of engagement was to understand broader communities' issues relating to the site. To ensure hear from a broad cross sections of the community we used a variety of techniques to canvass issues. We want to understand communities' views to increase safety, efficiency of traffic flow balanced with resident convenience.

Stage 1 – Understanding the issues

Our initial stage of engagement will be to understand the issues consistent with broader community. We will use community information to inform traffic analysis for the site and next steps of engagement. (**the purpose of the next stages will be further refined based on what we hear as part of Stage 1*)

Assuming we hear common themes from residents and users of the site we will conduct a second stage of engagement seeking feedback on a potential solution, based on resources we have available internally to conduct and implement the works.

What we did

- Briefed Marion Sports and Community Club about survey process and provided hard copies to Club.
- Emailed database of committee and users with information and a link to the online survey.
- Distributed information to surrounding households (approximately 300) including the School and Retirement Village with information sheet, map, hard copy survey and reply paid envelope.
- Erected on site sign in carpark area and around tracks advising of engagement.
- Set up an online survey via www.makingmarion.com.au/marion-sports-access-paths

The engagement period ran from 30 June to 29 July 2016

What we asked

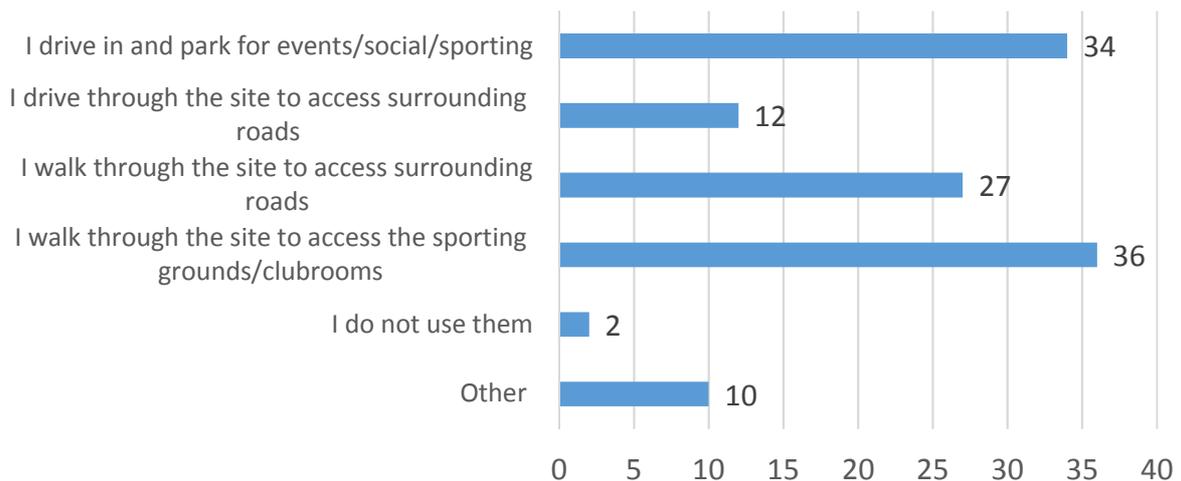
In the survey we asked people to tell us:

- How do you currently use the access paths?
- What concerns do you have about how the traffic moves through the Marion Sports Complex currently?
- Do you have any feedback about how the traffic movement through the Marion Sports Complex could be improved?

A total of **58** people provided feedback

What we heard

Q1. How do you currently use access paths?

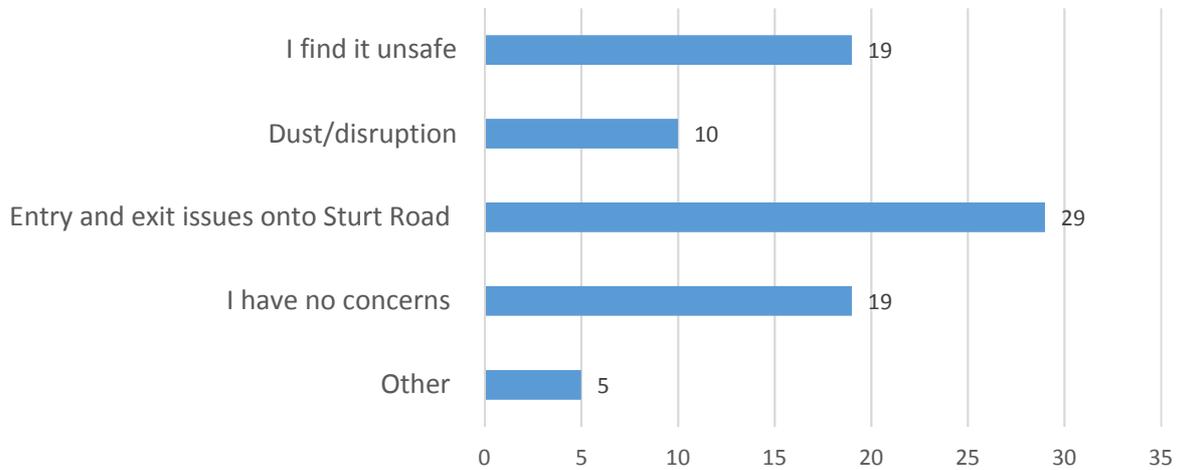


Majority of responses indicated the paths were used to drive or walk in for access to sporting grounds with 12 responses indicating they use it drive through to surrounding roads.

People who stated 'other' provided the following feedback about how else they use the access paths:

- *I use the road behind the bowling club when Sturt Rd is a standstill as I can access my home in Pitcairn Av this way. I walk behind the Club to access road behind it to go to Flinders Clinic on Diagonal Road and Shopping Centre.*
- *On perhaps 3 occasions I have used the paths to gain access to my home on Jasmine Avenue when access via Sturt Road has been impossible e.g. roadwork right at the intersection, police blocked it off after accident. However, I don't normally use it.*
- *I have used the North/South access to access surrounding roads when road works were in progress. (Marion Road/South Road intersection) but am very careful as school children access path to use oval facilities several times a day.*
- *Living in Christina Street my main concern is the small gate in the north west corner of the car park. This is my only entrance. My house is 50mtr North of this gate and dozens of people use the entrance and exit every day. However, many times it is blocked by cars parking there. I use a gopher and access is important at times. Women with prams - people on walking frames etc find the same thing. Something must be done about this ASAP.*
- *If able I use (not much) very x country*
- *There is frequent movement of cars and pedestrians between the Marion RSL, Marion Sports Club and Marion Bowling Club*
- *as a bowls player many times a year and Friday night dinner*
- *I walk my dogs around the oval track and around the perimeter of soccer pitches*
- *Drive around to Christina St or Shelley Av and walk into Club Marion and/or bowls club*
- *As a resident of Jasmine Av at times when Sturt Rd is jammed I sometimes drive into the sports complex from Sturt Rd and drive very slowly around the road that goes past the bowling club to access Jasmine Avenue at the Eastern End*

Q2. What concerns do you have about how the traffic moves through the Marion Sports Complex currently?



Entry and exit onto Sturt road was the main concern with safety also mentioned.

A reasonable amount of responses also indicated that they have no concerns currently with how the traffic moves through.

Comments included main areas of concern were around safety, ease of way and dust control. A full summary of comments is provided as **Attachment 1** to this report.

Summary of common themes

Community comments have been themed into areas of priority and below is a table summarising feedback and providing our response.

Comments	Number	Response
Access problems to / from Sturt Road	14	<p>This is not an uncommon complaint from many establishments (both private and community) along all arterial roads.</p> <p>In this case, the problem is mainly due to the volumes of traffic proceeding in either direction along Sturt Road.</p> <p>Existing conditions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two lanes in each direction on Sturt Road separated by a 4m wide median.• A left turn lane and a shared right/left lane (separated by an island) exiting the complex car park, with one lane in.• Directly opposite is an access to the City of Marion Admin building, consisting a left turn out / right turn lane out / one lane in.• Within the wide median, sheltered right turn lanes have been provided into both the sports complex and the Council offices.
Driving around the track is a problem	5	<p>Agreed, this is a safety concern. Should be considered by Property Section and the Sporting complex.</p>
Traffic speeds and movement around the complex	3	<p>As this is a car park, the installation of a 10 km/h speed sign may be appropriate to control vehicle movements.</p>
Condition of the car park and dust	3	<p>This should be addressed.</p> <p>However, this could be achieved if an alternative via Jasmine Avenue is developed (as suggested below).</p>
Other	4	

Suggestions	Response	
Access should be provided to the west (Christina Street and Shelley Street)	7	Currently, this area is 'land locked' and therefore traffic movements within these streets are very low. Therefore, proposing a new access point into this area is unlikely to be favored by local residents. In-addition it may also result in additional movements along other local streets through the Marion area, particularly Norfolk Road and/or Finniss Street.
Access should be provided to the east (Jasmine Avenue)	4	This may be appropriate and alleviate the problems being experienced at the main entrance. To achieve this would require formalising road between the oval and the bowling club.
Access to the north is required (Norfolk Road)	3	This is not considered to be appropriate. It would create a 'cut through' route were motorists wishing to avoid the congestion on either Sturt Road or at the intersection of Sturt Road & Marion Road, could utilise the complex and Norfolk Road.
Alternative access is needed	4	No other access point is available to Sturt Road. In relation to other roads, refer to the comments above.
Traffic signals required at the main entrance	2	An examination of the available data has indicated that the provision of traffic signals is not warranted. Furthermore, it is unlikely that DPTI would agree to such an installation due to the location's proximity to the existing signals at Diagonal Road. It should be noted that as two access points to private property is involved, if DPTI agreed to the installation it would be at the cost the property owner (in this case the City of Marion).
Change signing and line-marking at the main entrance	2	This should be reviewed. However, any changes need to be discussed with Property Section and the Marion Sports Complex.
Road through the complex (to Jasmine Avenue) should be sealed	2	This treatment would encourage the movement of vehicles through the complex to Jasmine Avenue. This would be appropriate if Jasmine Avenue is to be utilized as an alternative access point to the sporting complex (as suggestions above).
Bollard should be removed	1	This would create a north-south route through the site which is not desirable.
Bollard should remain	1	Agreed
The entire area should be locked after 12 mid-night	1	This will need to be review by Property Section in consultation with the sporting clubs.
Other	3	

We thank all those who took the time to provide us with feedback.

This information will be used to assess a further technical review of the access paths and will be subject to due consideration of current resources conduct and implement the works.

Attachment 1 – FULL SUMMARY OF COMMENTS RECEIVED

Safety

- *The increase in traffic flow along Sturt Road has made it very difficult, and I believe dangerous, when exiting the Marion Sports Complex.*
- *I have personal experience as in 2012 I wrote my car (and the other car) off exiting MSCC after dropping off some documents. A key issue is that cars heading east from Diagonal Road, frequently have their indicators still going, as the corner isn't sufficient angle to disengage - I've also seen many near-misses when people think a car is turning in - only to continue straight past. Traffic moves at significant speed along that road.*
- *Traffic frequently travels at too high a speed through the complex. Perhaps the inclusion of speed humps etc to minimise the speed around the area.*
- *Turning out on to Sturt Rd during busy times is scary and unsafe not just for myself but also the elderly.*
- *During peak traffic periods, it is difficult and dangerous to exit the complex car park onto Sturt Road. This was made more difficult when the entrance to the Council Chambers was placed opposite the complex some years ago. There have been numerous accidents on this section of Sturt Road.*
- *In addition to the above there has been at least one occasion where a person decided to drive their car around the trotting track doing multiple laps whilst being used by the softballers. We made the assumption that they were intoxicated.*
- *Vehicle traffic is very heavy on Sturt Road, creating significant safety issues entering and exiting the facility.*
- *Within the facility, the use of the ""track"" around the main oval creates significant safety issues, particularly at times where there are juniors/young people using the facilities"*
- *Entry and exit issues on Norfolk Road. This is especially a problem for residents living in the adjoining Retirement Estate, especially those of us who live on the boundary. In the past we have experienced dust/car hoons/noisy (pop pop) bikes. The worst experience is Cars Exploding (2) the most recent in the early hours of sat morning 9th July. GATES should be kept CLOSED to keep out hoons and trouble makers.*
- *Some people drive too fast and are not mindful of pedestrians*
- *10km/h should be posted throughout all car parks.*
- *Right turn out of the complex onto Sturt road...dangerous.*
- *I find it unsafe to turn right on to Sturt Road from the Sports Complex, and to turn left and try to get across to the left lane to turn right at Marion is also hard at time with all the traffic. Turn right from Sturt road into the complex is unsafe for when you slow down and put your blinker on the cars behind you are travelling at 60 and not expecting you to slow down and turn into the complex this is one of many reasons there is so many accidents on Sturt Road..*
- *we need another exit, either around the oval connecting Norfolk Ave, or Christina St. The current only available exit on to Sturt Road is dangerous due to the increased traffic. This is of particular concern should emergency vehicles need to enter/exit also should this be blocked for what ever reason there is no other way out.. I am told that the old croquet greens are to become parking space if this is correct then it would be a simple matter to provide an exit onto Christina St or Shelly Ave*
- *The double entry and exit at the main gates is very dangerous.*

- *Entering the site now I usually come in via Jasmine ave because of the traffic island and the keep clear section before the lights. A much safer entry than the main entrance.*
- *Current bollard near scoreboard still allows space for small cars and motorbikes to go through - very unsafe currently.*

Dust issues

- *The Dust and Dirt that gets blown on to the Courts is a health hazard aswell.*
- *pave the area*
- *Dust would not be a problem if it was all bitumised/paved. In 30 years never been able to access Sturt Road by vehicle. Would be good to have access but Sturt Road is always congested and banked up, with traffic from Marion, so probably would not be a good option.*
- *all pollution*

Ease of way and traffic flow

- *The Car Park of the Marion Tennis Club is frankly, disgusting, and has been for decades and urgently requires an upgrade particular given the Club has worked tirelessly to upgrade the Courts providing the Community now with a first class Tennis Club facility.*
- *It has been made more difficult with the manner that there are now two alternatives to exit the park at the main entrance.*
- *Virtually impossible (and dangerous) to turn right onto Sturt Road and traffic build up at some times (3:30 and after 5 on weekdays) makes it difficult to turn left.*
- *Entry and exit to the site via Sturt Rd during peak traffic times can be difficult.*
- *About 2 years ago the Council installed a steel gate to block access between Jasmine Avenue and the community complex. This has turned out to be a waste of council money as the gate was immediately locked in the open position by people wanting to use the East/West point as a public road. This is still the case and the wooden partition alongside is now broken down. Vehicles using this area also result in a large amount of dust for local residents. Prior to the last couple of months vehicles were using the trotting track as a public road, also resulting in a large amount of dust for local residents. Currently this is not the case as Council has installed a blocking post at the entrance near the score board and the other two northern access points have been blocked using chains. Blocking the use of the trotting track as a public road is extremely important for the safety of the sunrise school children who cross the trotting track to use the oval at recess time, lunch time and for their school sport. As you would be aware, children run at times without looking and it would be a tragedy if any were hit by a car and got killed or injured. If any of these areas in the future are permitted to be used by vehicle hopefully for the safety of school children on the trotting track, then those areas need to be bitumised to reduce dust. However, I reiterate, for the safety of the school situation, the trotting track must be kept closed to vehicles using it for North/South access as a public road.*
- *Only one official entre/exit point to both bowling and community club. Emergency vehicle access e.g. ambulance exiting safely and entering safely when events are at the at the oval or club.*
- *remove the bollard*
- *The condition of the road gas deteriorated and it causes minor problems with a small car. On the other had the access to Sturt Road works well.*

- *The trotting track and adjacent paths should be for pedestrians and service vehicles only.*
- *We used to be able to avoid the Sturt Road death trap by entering off Norfolk road and slowly driving around the trotting track. This safe access has been stopped by a bollard.*
- *I have no problems with cars moving through the complex. It all a case of speed allowed!*
- *We are concerned patrons cannot easily move between these adjacent venues without having to drive on main roads.*
- *Only if grounds are closed off Jasmine Avenue Street parking becomes bust and used for parking making it hard to access my driveway*
- *Exit to Sturt Road sign in car park indicates right had turn out. Left turn, right on right exit on bitumen surface each way. Mark one entry one exit. Mark bitumen entry exit on road surface west and east inside car park.*
- *Cars round the oval track looking for a through route, also the parking behind the basketball stadium is very busy and difficult for pedestrians at peak times. I don't think there should be through traffic. The access road to the basketball courts needs no parking along the entry/exit road. An entry to car parking at the Southern end of Christina Street might relive entry and exit onto Sturt road. Also, Jasmine Rd could be used to exit, change Sturt Road to entry only.*
- *traffic using old trotting track is dangerous to recreational users of the complex. Dust to nearby properties. Schoolchildren, sports participants, walkers, joggers, playground use this space.*
- *It would be great to have another back exit away from Sturt Rd it is diabolical at times to get onto Sturt Rd*

Q3. Feedback on how traffic flow could be improved

Amenity and safety suggestions

- *Safest option would be the installation of traffic flow regulated lights. The option to all use the alternative exits would reduce the traffic flow - through the basketball stadium entrance, and across the eastern side of the ground, which enable people to not have to pull out cross over Sturt Road.*
- *Bitumised entry access via jasmine Av and new exit/entry via Christina/Shelley Av with appropriate speed restrictions.*
- *The road needs to be sealed as it is a sludge with pot holes filled with water and makes a complete mess of the street*
- *Lights in and out can't think of any other way.*
- *(1) The area on the southern side of the oval needs to be covered with a bituminized road surface not the pot holed BMX style dirt track it is at the moment. (2) The line marking and traffic lanes need remarking. (3) Provide sealed access road around oval track or remove bollards. Provide chicanes or other pacifiers to moderate speeds*
- *To open the back entrance around oval - at Christmas it was excellent*

Entry/exit suggestions

- *I believe an entry and exit point from the Marion Sports Complex car park onto Christina Street / Shelley Avenue would alleviate a lot of the concerns and pressures only having one entry / exit point to the property creates.*
- *The entrance from Norfolk Avenue is used by basketball users to access the stadium. If the surface was improved, this would allow users of the sports complex to go through to the car park there. I think that if there was access to the carpark from Shelley Avenue, this would do much to alleviate the dangers of entering and exiting from Sturt Road.*
- *There needs to be an entry/exit point on to the roads behind the Complex so people don't have to turn out on to Sturt Rd (where multiple accidents have occurred). I also have been witness to a pregnant lady being hit by an elderly man at the exit on to Sturt Rd and had to offer assistance.*
- *My suggestion would be Christina St or Shelly Ave, seeing as there is no access to Norfolk Rd other than the track which is now block off.*
- *Multiple entry/access points and to quality car parking may help*
- *I continue to support the bollard to block the North/South traffic flow.*
- *In relation to the entry/exit to Sturt Road, options include:*
 - *installation of stop lights*
 - *diverting patrons entering/exiting the facilities via an alternate (new) entry/exit point that avoids direct entry/exit to Sturt Road. Concern here is creating a new thoroughfare similar to the now blocked off North/South traffic flow (refer my point above). The potential new entry/exit point could be on the western side of the current car park?*
 - *As stated above, the area should be locked to ALL vehicles after mid night when basketball matches are scheduled but earlier when there are not any planned events.*
- *Rear access e.g. Norfolk road not a great option and the road is busy and very narrow, Christina Street near Croquet Club could be an option.*
- *I move when least traffic on Sturt Road via vehicle*
- *Access road to Pitcairn the basketball area, when traffic is on Marion and Sturt becomes dangerous as traffic builds up.*
- *Some drivers are belligerent/aggressive causing serious risk to pedestrians, especially children. Introduced access/egress to Sturt Road*
- *Encourage more drivers to come via Norfolk Road rather than Marion road*
- *Entrance/exit via Christina Street. To take pressure off Sturt Road, or alternatively make a roadway adjacent to the racetrack on the eastern side to allow access via Norfolk road.*
- *Access/egress from Norfolk road would be safer.*
- *Access onto Sturt Road between Diagonal and Marion Roads is very difficult and increasingly unsafe. Create access on the Western side of the Sporting Complex (ie Christine St to give access to Diagonal Road and surrounding streets without having to use Sturt Road).*
- *Another access is needed particularly for people turning right onto Sturt Road from the car park. One suggestion is to provide an access from Shelley Avenue via Finnis Street.*
- *I live in Jasmine Avenue. Situations occur making it very difficult to exit. I believe we should have another exit off Richman Avenue via the complex carpark.*

- *Close all the gates to limit the use of trotting track for use by patrons. Entry off Jasmine Av to the car park during football games means that no entry fees are paid.*
 - *Cars often use our street (Christina st) to park in for sporting matches and Sunday market day - we have no problem except they park opposite our driveway which makes it difficult to reverse out onto road*
 - *Option 1 - open up access to Shelley Av allows access to existing streets - Finniss St to both Diagonal Road and Sturt Rd and Oakland's area. Option 2 - improve car parking North end of oval and paved walkway to Club Marion - prevent traffic North South*
 - *Yes! Since the bollard was put up we are left with only one exit from Jasmine Av. The selfish 'sods' from Norfolk Road have no idea how hard it is to get from Pitcairn and Jasmine Av at peak times, the traffic has increased by 110% since I first moved in. please out a through road or access in,*
 - *North/South movement around the old trotting track should be allowed. This is dangerous to all recreational users, dog walkers, runners children accessing the playground, sports facility users and people walking through the area to access other streets etc.*
 - *Be kept the same*
-