Safety and traffic flow improvements on Cary Street between The Boulevarde and Victory Parade, Toronto

Roads and Maritime Services is planning a future upgrade to Cary Street between The Boulevarde and Victory Parade at Toronto to improve safety and traffic flow.

This community update contains information on the proposed design, which involves installing traffic lights at the Donnelly Avenue and James Street intersection with right turn bays on Cary Street for northbound and southbound traffic.

Feedback on the proposal is invited by 11 July 2014 and will be considered in finalising the design.

Background

Cary Street at Toronto forms part of the Wallsend to Morisset route that provides direct access through the western side of Lake Macquarie and is the main road access to residential, commercial and recreational areas in the Toronto CBD and to west Lake Macquarie.

Around 25,000 vehicles per day use Cary Street between The Boulevarde and Bay Street. In peak travel times motorists experience delays due to through and right turning traffic sharing a lane northbound at Victory Parade and southbound at James Street.

There is also a history of crashes along this section of Cary Street with the majority of incidents involving turning vehicles or rear end crashes near Victory Parade and Donnelly Street.

Roads and Maritime previously investigated widening Cary Street as part of long running plan for a future upgrade of the Toronto to Booragul corridor. Roads and Maritime has since identified safety and traffic improvements for Cary Street in the short term, which are outlined in this community update. There are no plans to upgrade the Toronto to Booragul corridor at this time.

The NSW Government has provided $1 million in 2013/14 to start planning for the safety and traffic improvements outlined in this community update.
Features

The proposed design includes:

- Widening the western side of Cary Street to provide two northbound and southbound lanes between The Boulevarde and Victory Parade with right turn bays at the Donnelly Avenue and James Street intersection. The work will also include reconfiguring the road between Thorne Street and The Boulevarde and removing two parking spaces on Cary Street to ensure safe left turn access into Thorne Street.

- Installing traffic lights on Cary Street at the Donnelly Avenue and James Street intersection with right turn lanes from Cary Street. The new traffic lights would provide additional pedestrian access across Cary Street, and would also include separate left turn and through lanes on Donnelly Avenue and James Street for safe access across and into Cary Street.

- Removing the right turn lane from Cary Street into Victory Parade to improve traffic flow for motorists travelling straight through the intersection. Motorists would be able to turn right at the proposed traffic lights at Donnelly Avenue.

- Upgrading pedestrian paths and road lighting on the western side of Cary Street between Thorne and Bay Streets.

- Providing additional safety improvements including road signage and line marking.

- Relocating utilities on the western side of Cary Street.

- Isolated removal of existing vegetation to accommodate the road widening. Vegetation will be replaced by approved species within the work area.
Next steps
Roads and Maritime will consider feedback provided by the community and stakeholders to finalise the upgrade design.
The next step for the project would be carrying out utility relocations. There is no timing for construction at this time.
Roads and Maritime will keep the community and stakeholders informed as the project progresses.

For more information
Stakeholders and the community are invited to view the plans and attend a staffed display on Thursday 26 June 2014 between 4pm and 7pm at:
Toronto Multi-Purpose Centre
Room C
9 Thorne Street, Toronto
Information is also available on the Roads and Maritime website at www.rms.nsw.gov.au/roadprojects

Please send us your feedback by:
Phoning: 02 4924 0261 within business hours
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Comments on the design are invited by 11 July 2014.