

Questions regarding traffic at the council meeting on June 24.

The Mayor, Deborah Hamblin, gave me 3 minutes to ask all my questions. Instead of pausing after each question to await the answer. As a result, I only received answers to the first two questions, both of which were unsatisfactory.

I had given council well over 2 weeks to consider these questions, backed up by documents that I tabled, so to be fobbed off this way is completely unacceptable.

I don't think this is any way to run Question Time, and will be voting for someone else to be the next Mayor at the council elections later this year

Question 1.

If there is an accident due to a medical episode on Ennis Avenue, I doubt if council would put in a chicane. The proposed chicane in Townsend Road is the result of an accident caused by a medical episode. It is exactly where the bus stops are and is within 100 metres of the roundabout. It will be dangerous for residents to back out into a chicane.

Is council prepared to reconsider the chicane on Townsend Road?

The Response:

I can't remember the exact words, but to the effect that due to safety reasons, the chicane will go ahead. What is not clear is whether this was based on the Mayor's personal opinion or whether the Technical Services department had considered my request to cancel the chicane and rejected it. In my opinion, the chicane is far more likely to cause accidents than to prevent them.

Question 2.

Will council consider asking Main Roads to:

Modify the sequence of 4 traffic lights along Read St to improve traffic flow And/or

Install cameras at each end of Seabrooke Avenue to capture average speeds?

The Response:

It is the police in charge of speed cameras, not Main Roads. (I had been misinformed by the Technical Services team when I had a meeting with them on June 16.) The response was that I could/should contact Main Roads and the police with these requests. However, the question was asking if COUNCIL would make these requests, not how a private individual could make the

requests. What chance does a concerned resident have of being successful, compared to council making such requests?

Question 3

Is the council willing to reconsider a proposal I put to a previous council meeting, regarding providing a substantial, accessible drop off zone at Palm Beach, which should cater for tourist and school excursion buses, as well as for visitors to drop off their families, picnic hampers, tables, chairs etc. Even the St Lady of Lourdes Church in Swinstone Street has a drop off zone, as do schools, shopping centres etc. But the notable exception is Palm Beach!

Response: None

Question 4

Will the Council actively support a coordinated push for major funding to resolve Old Rockingham's traffic congestion crisis, including upgrades to Point Peron Road, Swinstone Street, Lake Street, Rae Road, and other overburdened thoroughfares, in recognition of urgent resident concerns and infrastructure strain?

Response: None

Question 5

Is the Council willing to advocate for a comprehensive traffic and transport master plan—developed in collaboration with neighbouring councils and State/Federal agencies—to address long-term population growth and current congestion across city boundaries?

Response: None

I attach the photo of the chicane proposed for Townsend Road. Please note the difficulty residents will have reversing out into the chicane.

If I can get 20 people to email me their support to cancel the chicane, I will start a petition. My email address is gallearthur@hotmail.com

