

<b>PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE</b>	<b>7</b>
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13 JULY 2022	
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**BLACK SPOT PROGRAM 2023/24**

R Hasan | 81/1/13 | #6981419

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council:

1. Council endorses the Black Spot project submission nominated in this report for Federal Government funding under the 2023/24 Black Spot program.
2. Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009* to enter into contracts, negotiate, finalise and execute any and all matters relating to this program subject to Council's procurement practices and policies.

**INTERESTED PARTIES:**

- Department of Transport & Main Roads
- Queensland Rail
- Sunbus
- Cairns Taxis
- TransLink
- Bicycle QLD

*Note: The identification of interested parties is provided on a best endeavours basis by Council Officers and may not be exhaustive.*

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) invited Council to nominate eligible Black Spot projects and apply for funding under the Queensland Black Spot Program for delivery in 2023/24. Approximately \$22 million is available for the development of the Black Spot Program.

The following project is proposed:

- Roundabout safety upgrades Stage 6 - \$300,000.

This report requests Council's endorsement of this project for 2023/24 Black Spot funding.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Black Spot program is an Australian Government funded program that provides funding for cost-effective high-benefit improvements on the road network to address actual or potential injury or fatal crashes. All Black Spot Program funding is directed

towards Local Government Authority (LGA) nominations for projects located on local government roads.

Council nominates projects annually for funding under the Black Spot Program, which targets high crash rate intersections and roads. Council has received funding for the following projects in previous years:

1. Road Widening for Cycling Safety Stage 1 in 2016 under the 2016/17 Black Spot program.
2. Grafton Street / Aplin Street intersection upgrade in 2017 under the 2017/18 Black Spot program.
3. Gatton Street / Severin Street intersection upgrade and roundabout upgrades (cycle infrastructure) Stage 1 in 2018 under the 2018/19 Black Spot program.
4. Roundabout Upgrades (cycle infrastructure) Stage 2 in 2019 under the 2019/20 Black Spot program.
5. Sheridan Street / Aplin Street intersection upgrade in 2020 under the 2020/21 Black Spot program.
6. Digger Street / McKenzie Street intersection upgrade in 2020 under the 2020/21 Black Spot program.

In addition, eleven (11) intersection upgrades submitted for funding under the 2022/23 Black Spot Program and Council hasn't been successful as there were other candidates with higher priorities.

Council undertook a desktop Road Safety Audit (RSA) of its infrastructure at roundabouts in 2016. The RSA identified various safety issues in relation to vehicle and cycle safety on approach to and within the circulating parts of the roundabouts. Recommendations from this audit have allowed Council to develop a typical treatment for cyclists at roundabouts which would be used for this project. This treatment is provided at single lane roundabouts and allows the cyclist to 'take the lane' and be more visible to motorists and is safer for all users. This also reduces the speed limit through the roundabout.

Following a review of crash data and consideration of Council's Transport projects and priorities, Council officers propose that the nomination for the 2023/24 Black Spot funding be submitted following a *proactive* approach. The following project is proposed for 2023/24 Black Spot funding:

- Roundabout safety upgrades Stage 6 - \$300,000.

Implementation of this project will improve the safety of all road users including cyclists at various roundabouts. This project is an extension of previous stages that Council has been implementing.

Council intends to roll out the standard cyclist treatment to all roundabouts within the Cairns region. Sites for this project were selected based on proximity to existing roundabouts with renewed cyclist treatments as well as high use cycle routes.

Roundabouts selected for this program are:

1. Forest Gardens Blvd / George Cannon Drive / Booyong Drive, Mount Sheridan
2. Hardy Road / Tarcoola Steet / Adonis Street, Mount Sheridan
3. Mona Street / Woodward Street / Keirle Avenue / Heavey Crescent, Whitfield
4. Forest Gardens Blvd / Sawpit Street / Madigans Drive, Mount Sheridan
5. Forest Gardens Blvd / George Cannon Drive, Mount Sheridan
6. Fig Tree Drive / Red Peak Blvd, Caravonica
7. Daphne Street / Harvey Road, Redlynch
8. Greenslopes Street / Arthur Street, Cairns North

This project will improve the overall safety of all road users, including motorists, cyclists and pedestrians.

### **OPTIONS:**

#### **Option 1:**

That Council endorses the Black Spot project submission nominated in this report for Federal Government funding under the 2023/24 Black Spot program.

#### **Option 2:**

That Council does not endorse the Black Spot project submissions nominated in this report and requests officers nominate other projects and submit a further report to Council.

### **CONSIDERATIONS:**

#### **Risk Management:**

There are no risks associated with this Black Spot project submission because the project would be 100% externally funded if approved.

#### **Council Finance and the Local Economy:**

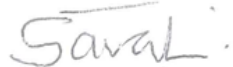
The Black Spot Program is a fully funded program and Council is not required to contribute any funding to approved projects. The project will be delivered as part of Council's future Capital Works Program if not approved as a Black Spot project and \$300k has been included in the draft budget program in 2023/24 under Intersection Safety improvement Project.

Corporate and Operational Plans:

The proposed works align with Focus Three (3): Design for Liveability, of Council's Corporate Plan – Improve transport safety.



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