

ORDINARY MEETING	7
8 NOVEMBER 2023	

APPLICATION FOR BLACK SPOT FUNDING 2024-2025 – KENNY STREET AND DUTTON STREET INTERSECTION SAFETY IMPROVEMENT

#85/1/4 | #7225911

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. **Endorses the project submission for \$101,563 (excl GST) of Federal Government funding under the 2024/25 Black Spot program for safety improvements at the Kenny Street and Dutton Street intersection.**
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 and Main Roads
- Local businesses and property owners

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 (DTMR) invited Council to nominate eligible Black Spot projects and apply for Federal Government funding under the Queensland Black Spot Program for delivery in 2024/25.

The following project is proposed:

- Safety improvements at the Kenny Street and Dutton Street intersection - \$101,563 (excl. GST).

This report seeks Council's endorsement of this project and the submission for 2024/25 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.

In Queensland, the Black Spot program is administered by DTMR on behalf of the Australian Government Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, and the Arts (DITRDC&A). The Black Spot program is included as a sub-program under the TMR Targeted Road Safety Program (TRSP).

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

Council has nominated a number of other intersection upgrades under subsequent Black Spot programs following a *proactive* approach, which were unsuccessful as there were other candidates with higher priorities.

Following a recent review of crash data, Council officers have nominated the following project for 2024/25 Black Spot funding.

- Safety improvements at the intersection of Kenny Street and Dutton Street for a grant of \$101,563 (excl GST).

This project is to undertake a “left in, left out” design for both approaches of Dutton Street to Kenny Street to improve the overall safety of the intersection for all road users. This section of Kenny Street is a local government road.

Due to tight timeframes between the announcement of the funding program (April 2023) and the application deadline (30 June 2023), it was not achievable to obtain Council approval for this application prior to submission.

COMMENT:

Seven crashes have been recorded at the intersection of Kenny Street and Dutton Street in the past five years, with four resulting in hospitalisations and three requiring medical treatment. Most crashes involved a vehicle turning right from Dutton Street into Kenny Street or intending to drive straight across Kenny Street.

The number of crashes at the intersection requiring hospitalisations and medical treatments is of concern. The reasons identified for these crashes include disobeying the give-way rules, not noticing, or misjudging the distance of oncoming traffic. It is also notable that most of these crashes occurred under clear and dry conditions, indicating that weather or road conditions were not a factor.

The proposed scope of work includes a traffic analysis to determine the feasibility of prohibiting right turns from Dutton Street to Kenny Street, a communication strategy, design and implementation of infrastructure changes. The ultimate scope of work is subject to consultation with relevant stakeholders.

OPTIONS:**Option 1:**

1. Endorses the project submission for \$101,563 (excl GST) of Federal Government funding under the 2024/25 Black Spot program for safety improvements at the Kenny Street and Dutton Street intersection.
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.

Option 2:

That Council does not endorse the project and application made for 2024/25 Black Spot funding and requests officers to withdraw the application.

CONSIDERATIONS:**Risk management**

If approved, the project would be 100% funded under the 2024/25 Black Spot funding. However, any variations to the cost will need to be fully funded by Council. No variation cost can be sought from the Black Spot funding.

Corporate and Operational Plans:

The proposed works align with the Council's strategic goals of providing a safe, sustainable, and connected place, developing and maintaining a quality and efficient infrastructure network, and provision of quality infrastructure that meets the region's current and future needs.

Council Finance and the Local Economy:

The estimated cost for this project is \$101,563 (excl GST). \$330k is included in Council's adopted budget for the Black Spot Program in 2024/2025. The total cost of the project is expected to be funded from the Black Spot Funding Program (if successful), within Council's adopted budget. Due to the nature of this project, it is expected that this project will proceed even if unsuccessful.

CONSULTATION:

Consultation will be undertaken with relevant stakeholders, including local businesses and landowners, road users and the general public.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 - Locality Map – DM#7207837

Attachment 2 – Concept Design – DM#7289681



Tyrone Curcuruto
Executive Manager Strategic Asset Management & Planning



David Stevens
Acting Associate Director Engineering Services



Mark Wuth
Director Cairns Infrastructure and Assets

Attachment 1 - Locality Map - DM#7207837



Attachment 2 – Concept Design – DM#7289681

