



14 February 2019

Roundabout Upgrade

The roundabout at the intersection of Andrew and Dempster Street is getting an upgrade thanks to funding from the National Blackspot Program.

The roundabout and associated roadworks is fully funded through the program with no ratepayers money required, it has been allocated \$443,250 in funding. The changes are to improve safety and circulation at the roundabout. Currently the roundabout has insufficient deflections (you currently do not need to turn when going straight through) and has minimal features to ensure a reduction in speed.

The size of the roundabout will be increased to improve circulation through the roundabout with improved geometric layout. The new low profile central islands have been designed to accommodate truck turning movements. The pedestrian crossings will be pushed back slightly improving the traffic flow through the roundabout while still ensuring pedestrian access is safe and given a priority. Additionally, lighting will be improved in the area, there will be some new landscaping and the creation of an improved taxi rank all form a part of the project.

The project will commence in May 2019 and will take approximately 12 weeks to complete with the work programmed to minimise the impact on businesses and traffic. Traffic management will be in place, with the works done under traffic management or outside of the town's busy hours when road closures are required. This is to ensure that the impact is kept to a minimum for the community.

CEO Matthew Scott said, "These works will change the alignment of the roundabout. At the moment, if you're going straight, you can drive straight through without turning your wheel. The work is intended to improve the safety and flow at the intersection of both vehicles and pedestrians.

"The new roundabout will be similar in size and shape the one installed at Dempster and James Street."

The National Blackspot Program has chosen to fund this upgrade due to 7 car accidents in 5 years, with 5 of these being right angle or T-Bone crashes. These should not be occurring at roundabouts and are considered dangerous for the users of this roundabout.

More information about the project can be found on the Shire's website under Project Information.

Ends

MEDIA CONTACT:
Lauren Darge (08) 9071 0626

