

## **NOTICE OF MOTION: EASTERN VALLEY WAY CLEARWAYS**

**RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:** DEBRA JUST – GENERAL MANAGER

**AUTHOR:** DEBRA JUST – GENERAL MANAGER

**CITY STRATEGY LINK:** 4.2.2 BALANCE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

**MEETING DATE:** 24 JULY 2017

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### **Purpose of Report**

Councillor Rozos has indicated his intention to move the following Notice of Motion:

### **Motion**

That Willoughby City Council writes a letter to The Hon. Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, strongly opposing the RMS' proposed new and extended clearway changes to Eastern Valley Way from the Sailors Bay Rd intersection to Clive St, Roseville Chase, which would be in effect Monday – Friday from 6am-7pm and Saturday – Sunday and Public Hols from 9am-6pm, on the grounds of lack of evidence for an improvement in traffic flow, loss of access to public amenities, decreased safety for residents associated with increased speeding, and the need for properly-funded infrastructure solutions that will better balance the rights of residents and motorists and better serve the long-term strategy of Transport for NSW.

### **Background**

In addition to the significant negative impacts for residents and tenants of the 600+ premises on Eastern Valley Way, additional associated costs will be deferred to council and their constituents as competition for side street parking increases along with overheads for maintaining homes and streetscapes.

### **General Manager's Comments**

The briefing by the Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) to Councillors on 3 July revealed that the introduction of Clearway conditions for Pacific Highway and Eastern Valley Way was the result of a congestion study undertaken in 2015. Modelling carried out following the study indicated that clearway restrictions from 6am – 7pm (weekdays) and 9am – 6pm (weekends and public holidays) would be necessary to ease congestion. The RMS also advised that the clearway restrictions would be set once introduced and there would not be any relaxing of the clearway conditions even after the off-peak periods.

The RMS further advised that all current parking along the proposed designated clearways restriction times would be shifted to adjoining side streets. It was stated that investigations by the RMS had found that there would be sufficient parking spaces on the adjoining side streets to replace the ones lost along the Pacific Highway and Eastern Valley Way. The RMS also assured Councillors that the option of widening these main routes were ruled out due to the presence of underground utilities, implying that such an option would not be financially feasible.

The RMS indicated that they had carried out consultation with affected businesses and residents and although the date for submissions has closed, the RMS did state that any further feedback from the Community would be welcomed. To that end, Council's traffic engineers will also be making a submission to the RMS raising issues that require further consideration by the RMS.

Given that there appears to be continuing concerns raised by the community and Councillors about the impact of lost parking and the difficulty in accessing affected properties, Council should request that the RMS further investigate the effects of higher parking demands on the adjoining side streets. Other issues that require further examination include its impact on visitor and trades-person parking, and waste collection operations. It should also be noted that any maintenance of road pavements by Council will have to be undertaken outside of clearway restricted times, which would result in higher construction costs and noise impact on nearby residents.

Given the list of outstanding issues raised, it is recommended that the RMS be asked to respond to the concerns raised.

### **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council consider the Notice of Motion from Councillor Rozos.**

