



mainroads
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

SY061-06/17
APPENDIX A

Enquiries: Elizabeth Davies
Our Ref: 17/1348

6 June 2017

Chief Executive Officer
Shire of York
1 Joaquina Street
YORK WA 6302

Dear Paul,

YORK MERREDIN ROAD – YORK TO QUAIRADING IMPROVEMENTS

Main Roads Wheatbelt Region is currently working on a project to widen 64 kilometres of the York Merredin Road between York and Quairading to improve safety and extend the road life. The works started in 2012/13 and are being done in stages with completion expected in 2020/21.

The crash rate per kilometre on the York Merredin Road (York to Quairading) is three-to-five times greater than the state average (data from 2010-2014). From 1989 to 2015, 183 crashes were recorded. Seven people were killed in six separate crashes where vehicles hit trees. A further 38 serious crashes occurred with 16 vehicles hitting trees (45 per cent).

Sections of the road between York and Quairading have a seal of less than 7 metres. Research shows that providing a 9 metre wide seal and installing audible edge lines reduces the risk of run off road deaths or serious injury on this road by 70 per cent; drivers who veer off the road have more distance to recover, while drivers who completely leave the road have more time to slow down before hitting hard immovable objects such as trees.

These works aim to meet the State Government's *Road Safety Strategy - Towards Zero 2008-2020* – which focuses on reducing road deaths and serious injuries. The Safe Systems Approach used by Australian road agencies acknowledges that people make mistakes and crashes will occur, but death or serious injury should not be the outcome.

Main Roads will be establishing a Construction Reference Group to seek input from community groups representing road users, transport operators, environmental groups, police and local government about matters related to the construction of the project. Working with all relevant community representatives will ensure an outcome that is acceptable within the community.



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Council is invited to nominate two representatives, one elected member and one Council officer, to participate in the Construction Reference Group. Meetings will be held in the evening at local venues every 4-8 weeks starting in July 2017. Nominations will close on 16 June 2017.

Main Roads sincerely hopes you can work with us on this project.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Barnsley".

Robert Barnsley
A/Regional Manager, Wheatbelt Region