Warrigal Road and Barkly Street Oakleigh: Problems and Possible Solutions

For some time there has been discussion on how the corner of Warrigal Road and Barkly Street Oakleigh could be made safer, particularly in relation to r/h turns. Possible solutions have included suggestions that traffic lights be installed.

With the appointment of Duncan Elliott as the new VicRoads Regional Director, a meeting was organised by Ann Barker, State Member for Oakleigh, and also included Monash Council Traffic Officers, Councillor Stefanie Perri and at a further meeting, representatives from Sacred Heart Primary and Sacred Heart Girls’ College.

VicRoads outlined the difficulties in installing lights on this corner due to lack of current road space to ensure safety for any right-turn lane and that properties would need to be acquired if this was to be the solution. Traffic counts also indicated that the most congested times appear to be during school drop-off and pick-up times.

Monash Council Traffic Officers indicated that traffic counts had been undertaken on both the corners of Warrigal/Barkly and Barkly/Latrobe particularly between 8.00 and 9.00 am, in 15 minute blocks, and these counts show that the majority of r/h turning cars in this time were then also turning right into Latrobe Street, therefore indicating drop-off at Sacred Heart Girls College.

In terms of possible short to medium solutions, and considering the traffic counts undertaken by Monash Council, VicRoads agreed to install clear signage at the corner of Mill Road to encourage parents to exit from Warrigal Road at this point. Signs will also be posted at other corners, particularly to signal a route to the College.

A longer-term solution is more difficult. Monash Council Traffic Officers indicated that there had been some discussion many years ago of the possible installation of traffic lights on the corners of Kangaroo and Mill Roads, also with some re-configuration of Warrigal Road to provide better traffic management in this area. VicRoads has indicated a willingness to undertake further investigation of this possible long-term solution.

Signs have now been installed at the corners of Mill Road, Johnson Street, Haughton Road and Earlstown Road. Parents travelling south on Warrigal Road are asked to use this route to either Sacred Heart Primary or Sacred Heart Girls’ College and not undertake right-hand turns at Barkly Street.

The work to determine whether Kangaroo, Warrigal and Mill Roads can be re-configured is long-term work and will continue to be developed as a possible long-term safer solution to traffic management for both users of Warrigal Road and importantly, for residents of this area.

ANN BARKER
State Member for Oakleigh