

Dear YRA Members,

YRA is now six months old – founded in early February 2009. How quickly the time has gone, but more importantly, we have worked hard to keep the Yatala residents' issues in the forefront of the mind of those who make decisions that will ultimately affect us all.

Being an YRA member means that you have a voice and are kept informed. As we all know, information is vital. As an individual, what one does with that information is up to each person, but collectively we participate in the future of this area we all love to call HOME.

It has been a very busy time since our last newsletter so please find below and attached to this email, our progress to date.

FEDERAL CABINET MEETING:

The Federal Government held a public cabinet meeting at the Beenleigh High School on 30th June 2009 at which Stuart Applegate and Gai Drake attended on behalf of YRA. Unfortunately we were not able to secure a "one-on-one" meeting with the Prime Minister or his Federal Member for Forde (Mr Brett Raguse). We did however provide Mr Raguse with a briefing document at the end of the meeting and his response is attached with this email newsletter.

STANMORE ROAD:

YRA sent a letter to Brett Raguse, with copies to Margaret Keech and Donna Gates (copy attached). The reply from GCCC said that they are hopeful that funds can be found to progress stage 3 sooner than was currently planned. Please also see attached reply from GCCC.

Residents' complaints about machine noise as early as 6.00am 7 days a week was raised with the GCCC. YRA was advised GCCC would raise this issue with the contractors completing stage 2 of Stanmore Road and advised 7.00am is the start time for any rock breaking machinery to commence operation. It does appear that the issue has been resolved at present.

A serious Truck Accident occurred at the Pagan / Darlington / Sandy Creek Roads roundabout – pics are available PLUS the interview in the A & L News on the 17th of July 2009. This is not the first time a truck has crashed on this roundabout and of course there was the fatal motorbike accident in recent times. On the 20th of July, an internal message was sent to all YRA members to ask them to communicate with the A & L News on their on-line comment area if they have any more feedback on the issue of the road. We do hope that you took the time to share your own concerns on Stanmore Road. We also understand that there was another accident on the morning of the 18th of July on Stanmore Road and Enklemann Drive!

DARLINGTON PARK:

Development is currently progressing in the Environmental & Planning Court process. YRA have been advised that the GCCC solicitors have replied and so have the solicitors for the developers. The Yatala residents who are Co-Respondents have confirmed that the two replies are very definitely opposed to each other. While the actual content of the solicitors replies are naturally **totally confidential** and have not been divulged to YRA, the Yatala residents who are Co-Respondents will do their very best to ensure a sensible outcome for all of us in the area. The final court date is set for early September. Will keep you informed on the outcome.

CRN PEACHEY RD AND STANMORE – OPP DARLINGTON PARK:

Currently progressing in the Environmental & Planning Court process. It does appear that this matter will be in the Southport Court on 31st August 2009 with some YRA members hopefully in the gallery to watch the process.

STANMORE MOTOCROSS:

YRA's last newsletter prompted some YRA members to write to the GCCC with their opinions on the Motocross.

An extract from communications with GCCC shows the Motorcross track is still disturbing some residents. Council has also received several letters indicating appreciation of the improved sound attenuation measures, several suggesting that the noise impact is no longer an issue and several offering support for the continuation of motor sports at the location - given the possible use of the site for industrial purposes should racing cease there.

This issue has been relevant at Darlington Park where the hills are about to be leveled to provide flat building pads for industrial shed construction/activities which some residents now feel will be far more intrusive than the original motor racing use.

Three emails Council received from residents have indicated that the noise is still impacting however Donna Gates visited the site & surrounding streets in different directions to assess whether there was a problem depending upon which way the wind was blowing. Donna stated she felt the noise from the track was fairly well controlled.

Please continue to let Donna Gates know via email, should anyone be further concerned about noise or dust issues from the Motorcross Track, whilst further consideration is being given by Council to the issue.

GCCC BUDGET

In the May edition of The Local Newsletter – Division 1, Donna Gates asked for feedback on projects that residents in Division 1 would like to see completed in the area. YRA sent out an internal message to all members to encourage them to reply as individuals to Donna with their "wish list". We do know that some YRA members took the time to reply to Donna so let us hope that some of the matters raised will see completion in the GCCC budget in 2009.

ORMEAU PROGRESS ASSOCIATION:

OPA are interested in YRA members becoming individual members of OPA but are not in a position to accept YRA as a group because of the format we use to communicate (internet predominately). This means that YRA members would need to attend OPA meetings (1st Monday of every month), to know what is happening in the Ormeau area.



NEWSLETTER

Issue 3 - Aug 2009

PO Box 355
Ormeau Qld 4208

Email: yra@yatala.info

YATALA PIE SHOP:

YRA sent a letter of congratulations to the management and staff for their recognition as one of Queensland's 150 ICONS.

PHOTOGRAPHS NEEDED:

We call on all residents to help us in capturing photographic proof of endangered animals such as platypus, koala's, echidna's, frog-lets, curlews and goanna's, to assist us from an environmental impact point of view, to ensure better planning for all current & future developments in and around Yatala.

YRA WEBSITE – HELP NEEDED:

Is there any YRA members who can help the steering committee with volunteering some time to assist in the further creation of the YRA Website? The steering committee does not have these skills and as all the work we do is voluntary there are no funds to pay a person to take the website to its next level.

It really just has to be simple, so it may be a little project for a young person who wants to make the IT industry his or her career. How rewarding would it be to have their CV show that they helped their local community as a volunteer project in their early years.

Please email yra@yatala.info with your offers of help.

24 June 2009

brett.raguse.mp@aph.gov.au
Federal MP for Forde
PO Box 1414
Beenleigh Qld 4207

Attention: Mr. Brett Raguse

Dear Mr. Raguse,

STANMORE ROAD STAGE 3 SUGGESTIONS

Below has been compiled over the past 18 months from consultation with local residents and officials. These issues were also raised at separate meetings with a number of State Candidates, who were also given a portfolio of information to retain for their own information with a view to discussing in more detail after the election, to ensure all aspects of planning are considered and designed accordingly.

It is for this reason, we are now again seeking your assistance and guidance to ensure all development planning proposed for Yatala, both current and future, is designed taking in all our concerns and suggestions to ensure the best possible solution for all. With stage 3 design upgrade works for Stanmore Road will be not commence until late 2010 with construction planned for 2012/2013 unless further Federal funding becomes available to fast track the project.

To date, we have had very minimal response to most of the items below and as a result, we again seek your support.

1. SAFETY

1.1 Vehicular visibility from Paterson Road to Stanmore Road:

Lower and flatten the raised elevations of Stanmore Rd section between Paterson Rd and Pagan Rd. This will provide;

- Improved traffic visibility.
- Safer entries & exits at intersections.
- Reduction in ongoing road maintenance.
- Eliminate heavy vehicle exhaust braking.
- Create a natural earth barrier for sound, dust and visual buffers to residents.
- Improve safety of Pedestrian crossings.

Action Requested:

The level of Stanmore Road adjacent to Paterson Road and Enkleman Road were reduced, during the upgrade, this would have a similar effect as sound attenuation barriers in trapping the traffic noise currently affecting adjacent properties. Additionally, if the elevation/gradient of the road was reduced in these two areas, this would reduce the need for trucks to accelerate creating increased noise.

Council, State or Federal Government need to advise if this suggestion will be implemented.

1.2 Visibility : Enkleman Road

Remove elevation of Stanmore road section between Enkleman Rd and Peachey Rd as part of Stage 3 upgrades, to improve oncoming vehicle visibility for entering and existing vehicles and reduce heavy vehicle speeds.

Action Requested:

Yatala Residents share extreme concerns regarding the safety of local traffic turning right into Enkleman Road and which has been made known to Council over the past two years at numerous public meetings, correspondence and again in last year's petition to Council in the "Yatala Industrial Development ongoing concerns 8 May 2008" correspondence.

We are most disappointed that Stage 2 of the Stanmore Road upgrade Road has fallen short of Enkleman Road, as we feel that this may even exacerbate an already dangerous situation. Two lanes tapering into one before a T intersection is not the safest option and request an explanation.

2. Traffic

2.1 Pollution - Buffers Pagan Rd to Paterson Rd

The leveling of Stanmore Rd through this section would create some natural earth barriers, however some sections of green vegetation will still be required and retention of the existing natural bush land retained with the aim to reduce noise, dust and visual pollution to residential areas.

2.2 Congestion

GCCC and Qld Government must understand that Yatala residents only have one entry and exit point to their estates which is Stanmore Road.

Action Requested:

Serious consideration at the major intersections of Stanmore & Paterson roads and Stanmore & Enkleman Roads with a view to installation of traffic lights as the best possible solution.

2.3 Volumes

Can GCCC engage a traffic planning consultant to study and report on Stanmore Road's ability to handle expected traffic growth over the coming 5-20 years, based on planned industrial development and residential communities to the west?

Action Requested:

Instead of logically continuing from the existing stage 1 expansion from the Darlington Drive Roundabout to Enkleman Road or to wherever the funds provided by the State Government allowed, we would like an explanation for this apparently illogical decision.

All residents who we have talked to cannot understand why it was decided to make stage 2 of the Stanmore Road upgrade between Enkleman Road and Harts Road where there are no residents who immediately benefit from this improvement.

3. Bikeways

3.1 Bikeway: Paterson Rd to Rivermount College

The current white painted line does not offer any form of physical barrier between bike rider and vehicles, and is simply too dangerous with the volume of traffic on this road.

Action Requested:

Rivermount College have expressed their desire to improve and enhance children's safety when using the existing bike path on Paterson Rd.

3.2 Bikeway: Stanmore Rd

Suggest considering a "**protected**" bike path be designed for Stages 2 & 3, along the Northern side of Stanmore Rd, linking the Enkleman Drive, Paterson Road and Pagan Road residential communities. This would provide safe passage for residents moving amongst these areas

4. Stanmore Road Haulage Route

At an Ormeau Progress Association (OPA) meeting some months ago attended by Margaret Keech and Donna Gates, a gentleman claiming to be an ex-Albert Shire Councilor stated "that the Riversleigh acres estate had been allowed to be situated too close to Stanmore Road in error as it should not have been allowed any closer than 500 metres from a Haul route".

Action Requested:

If this is correct, then residential Yatala is also too close to a Haulage Road due to a Council blunder and some effort to alleviate the situation would appear to be in order.

*This is a matter that has been brought up by many residents at public meetings over the last couple of years. The answer which we had been given many times in the past was "it is not Council Policy to erect sound attenuation barriers". Residents living along Stanmore Road (less than 50-100mtres away) have a very legitimate complaint, which needs to be addressed by **Council, the State Government and Future Industrial Developers**, who will directly contribute to further road noise from increased industrial traffic and eventual industrial noise from the hundreds of factories being proposed adjacent to the Yatala residential area.*

We would really appreciate if our local representative could obtain and provide a clear answer as to the accuracy of that gentleman's statement?

YRA representation will also be in attendance at the Prime Ministers Cabinet Public Forum to be held in Beenleigh on the 30th June 2009, to raise awareness for our concerns with the Federal Government.

Kind regards
YATALA RESIDENTS ALLIANCE

C Dorman & G Drake

C. Dorman & G. Drake
for & on behalf of YRA Members

cc: D Gates division1@goldcoast.qld.gov.au
M Keech albert@parliament.qld.gov.au



Brett Raguse MP

Federal Member for **Forde**

'Your Hardworking Local'

1 JUL 2009

Mrs Cavell Dorman & Mrs Gai Drake
Yatala Residents Alliance
PO Box 355
ORMEAU QLD 4208

Dear Mrs Dorman and Mrs Drake,

Thankyou for your correspondence on behalf of the Yatala Residents Alliance in relation to upgrades of Stanmore Road in Yatala.

The Federal Government does provide funding to Local Government authorities to assist in the maintenance and upgrading of local roads. However, priorities for Local Government road upgrades, along with planning details, are determined by these local authorities, as they are in the best position to make these decisions.

The Gold Coast City Council actively pursues Federal Government funding through general purpose and roads grants, as well as programmes including Roads to Recovery and Black Spot funding. The National Building Program Roads to Recovery alone recently provided \$18,978,791 to Gold Coast City Council.

Therefore, whilst I support grants to Local Government generally, decisions on the funding of specific Local Government road projects are not done by the Federal Government. That given, I do appreciate being kept informed of views and perspectives on all matters of importance to our local area.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office if I may be of assistance with any Federal Government related matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brett Raguse". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Brett Raguse
Federal Member for Forde

CC Cr Donna Gates, PO Box 5042, Gold Coast Mail Centre QLD 9729
The Hon Margaret Keech MP, PO Box 577, Beenleigh QLD 4207



City of Gold Coast

Division 1 Representative
Councillor Donna Gates



Gold Coast City Council

22 July 2009

Yatala Residents' Alliance
PO Box 355
ORMEAU QLD 4208

Dear Cavell and Gai

STANMORE ROAD STAGE 3

On receipt of the copy of your letter to Members for Forde, Mr Brett Raguse, I forwarded relevant concerns to Council Officers and can now provide the following responses:

1. SAFETY

1.1 Visibility: Paterson Road to Stanmore Road

Concern:

The section of road between Paterson and Pagan Road has a sub standard vertical geometry contributing directly to problems with visibility. The YRA have requested that this section of road be lowered to improve safety and reduce ongoing maintenance.

Response:

The section of road is contained within the Stage 3 upgrade. The preliminary design contained within the 2006 planning report indicates that the vertical geometry of the road will be flattened to achieve better operational and safety outcomes. The road will be designed in accordance with the appropriate standards and guidelines.

1.2 Visibility: Enkleman Road

Concern:

The section of road between Enkleman Road and Peachey Road has a sub standard vertical geometry contributing directly to problems with visibility. The YRA have requested that this section of road be lowered to improve the safety of local traffic turning into Enkleman Road.

Response:

The section of road is contained within the Stage 3 upgrade. The preliminary design contained within the 2006 planning report indicates that the vertical geometry of the road will be flattened to achieve better operational and safety outcomes. The road will be designed in accordance with the appropriate Australian standards and guidelines.

The information regarding 1.1 and 1.2 has been passed to Technical Services for consideration in the design process and also the Corporate Communications who will be preparing a community consultation plan for this stage of the upgrade.

2. TRAFFIC

2.1 Pollution – Buffers Pagan Road to Paterson Road

Concern:

Stanmore Road needs to be levelled through this section to create natural barriers that reduce noise, dust and visual pollution to residential areas.

Response:

The section of road is contained within the Stage 3 upgrade. The preliminary design contained within the 2006 planning report indicates that the vertical geometry of the road will be flattened to achieve better operational and safety outcomes. The road will

be designed in accordance with the appropriate Australian standards and guidelines. There will be a requirement for suitable landscaping to be planted within the verge area to lessen the visual impact of the road work. It is not Council Policy to install noise attenuation barriers along Council controlled roads.

Technical Services will be requested to consider in the design process.

2.2 Congestion:

Concern:

Yatala residents only have one entry and exit point into their estate off Stanmore Road. The YRA have requested that traffic signals be installed at the Paterson Rd and Enkleman Rd intersections.

Response:

The section of road is contained within the Stage 3 upgrade. The preliminary design contained within the 2006 planning report indicates that neither intersection will have traffic signals.

Intersection warrants must be met for signalisation to be considered. These include:

- Traffic demand – high vehicle volumes along both major and minor roads and/or
- Pedestrian safety – high pedestrian volumes/demand for crossing the road and/or
- Crashes – significant crash history

Technical Services will consider in the design process and reassess the design parameters to determine whether the warrants for signalisation are met.

2.3 Volumes

Concern:

Can GCCC engage a traffic planning consultant to model Stanmore Roads ability to cater for expected traffic growth over the next 5 – 20 years.

Response:

Gold Coast City currently has a Transport model that predicts traffic growth upon the city's major roads out to the year 2021. This model forms the basis of the transport related priorities identified within the Priority Infrastructure Plan. On the basis of traffic growth, the upgrade of Stanmore Road is seen as a medium term priority. The current stages of work (1 & 2) have been undertaken to improve road geometry and deliver safety outcomes.

The model is currently being reviewed and revised traffic growth figures will be projected to the year 2031.

3. BIKEWAYS

3.1 Bikeway: Paterson Road to Rivermount College

Concern:

The on road facility does not offer sufficient protection for vulnerable cyclists travelling to and from Rivermount College

Response:

The desired works are not part of the Stanmore Rd upgrade project, however construction of a 2.5m wide shared use path from the School to Stanmore Road is proposed through the Major Bikeways program. Design investigation should be finalised this financial year. Project delivery will be considered for inclusion within the 10/11 program.

3.2 Bikeway Stanmore Road

Concern:

A protected bike path should be installed between Enkleman Drive, Paterson Road and Pagan Road to provide a pedestrian connection between the residential communities

Response:

The adopted planning report (2006) did not make specific allowance for pedestrian or cyclists within the preliminary design.

With respect to pedestrian movement - No footpaths were required along Stanmore Rd as pedestrian movements were seen as being localised within residential development zones adjoining Stanmore Road and it was envisaged the distances involved would deter pedestrian movements.

With respect to cycle movement, the road profile provides a 2m wide shoulder to cater for on road cycle usage. The shoulder width meets Austroad standards for an on road cycle facility in a 80km/h speed environment.

Based on the concern expressed, Technical Service will be requested to consider the incorporation of a shared use pathway in the design of Stages 3.

4. STANMORE ROAD HAULAGE ROUTE**Concern:**

That the Riverleigh acres estate has been allowed to be situated too close to Stanmore Road in error as it should not have been allowed any closer than 500 meters from a haul route. The YRA are wanting Council to erect noise attenuation barriers to mitigate the noise impacts with the subdivision being too close to the road.

Response:

Stanmore Road is shown as a "Haulage Route" upon the Extractive Resources Mapping within the planning scheme. I am unaware of any planning scheme provision that requires a minimum residential setback of 500m from a haulage route. Clarification from Planning has been requested and I will forward you their response when received, however as advised previously, it is not Council policy to erect noise attenuation barriers on Council controlled roads.

I trust this provides clarification of all matters.

Kind regards to all.



DONNA GATES
Councillor Division 1





■ Danger road ... concerned residents, from left, Stuart Applegate, Barry Sewell and Bob and Covel Dorman on a busy section on Stanmore Rd.

Danger strip fears

By JUDITH MAIZEY

A YATALA residents' action group fears there will be a fatality on a busy section of Stanmore Rd if it is not urgently upgraded to a dual carriageway.

Yatala Residents Alliance spokesman Stuart Applegate said the road section that needed upgrading was between Pagan and Enkelman roads.

An alliance survey on two occasions in March found eight trucks, mainly quarry trucks with a trailer, passed along that section of Stanmore Rd every minute.

To date, two stages of Stanmore Rd had been scheduled or upgraded to a dual carriageway, but the section

UPGRADE NEEDED

- Residents group calls for Stanmore Rd (between Pagan and Enkelman roads) at Yatala to be upgraded.
- Survey held in March reveals eight trucks pass along that section of Stanmore Rd every minute.
- Gold Coast Councillor says it's a matter of managing speed and is a police issue



between Pagan and Enkelman roads, listed as Stage 3, is not yet funded.

Gold Coast City Council paid for Stage 1 of the project, while the Federal Government funded Stage 2.

Mr Applegate said Stage 3 - which was between Stages 1 and 2 - included the only entrance and exit to the

Rivermount College campus and at Enkelman Rd.

"Because of the elevations of the road and the volumes of trucks travelling along this road, there is extreme danger for people coming and going into these areas," Mr Applegate said.

"We feel money should've been spent on upgrading

Stage 3 well before Stage 2, which is currently happening at the quarry end."

Mr Applegate said it was surprising there had not been more accidents on Stanmore Rd considering the large number of quarry trucks using it.

"Almost every resident we talk to can share an experience of nearly being run off the road or having a close encounter with a large vehicle of some sort," he said.

Gold Coast City councillor Donna Gates (Division 1) said work on Stage 3 was not programmed to happen until 2012-16, but said the council was going to apply to the Federal Government to fast-track that section.

But Cr Gates said she did

not agree that the road was dangerous and did not know residents had specific concerns about the Paterson Rd intersection.

"It's a busy quarry haul road, I'll grant you that," she said, "but it's a matter of managing (a vehicle's) speed and that's a matter for the police."

Federal Member for Forde Brett Raguse said he was concerned about safety.

"I will work with Cr Gates and the Yatala Residents Alliance to take forward their concerns ... to Gold Coast City Council to ensure the northern Gold Coast is given its fair share of funding," he said.

■ Comment online at www.qlbertylogannews.com.au.