

6.2 NOTICE OF MOTION: Cr Joshua Topelberg - Reduced speed limit on Vincent Street to 40kph between William Street and Fitzgerald Street

That Council:

1. **REQUESTS** the Chief Executive Officer to again write to Main Roads WA requesting a reduction in the posted speed limit on Vincent Street, from 60kph to 40kph, between William Street and Fitzgerald Street, noting that the previous request to review the speed limit was not supported; and
2. **ADVOCATES** for the lower posted speed limit to be implemented prior to December 2015, due to the significant increase in patronage at Hyde Park during summer and in particular young children using the Water Playground.

REASON:

During the summer period in particular, the on road parking along the entire length of Vincent Street between Fitzgerald Street and William Street is fully used by visitors to the adjacent Hyde Park Reserve. Many mothers with young children park on both sides of the street to access the popular water playground and there is a need to ensure safety is maintained by reducing the speed of passing vehicles.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENT:

Administration supports the proposed Motion.

Background:

This section of Vincent Street was previously a four lane road and in an attempt to improve amenity, the City reduced the road to one lane in each direction and installed a central planted/painted median and created embayed parking. This 'narrowing' also had the effect of slowing vehicle speeds and it is considered that the speed environment of this section of street is no longer 60kph (current posted speed).

Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 22 April 2014

Council considered a Notice of Motion on reducing the posted speed limit on Vincent Street where the following decision was made:

"That the Council:

1. *REQUESTS* the Acting Chief Executive Officer to investigate reducing the speed limit on Vincent Street to 40km/h between William Street and Fitzgerald Street; and
2. *PROVIDES* a report to the council no later than 10 June 2014."

On 2 April 2015 Main Roads WA subsequently wrote to the City advising the request to lower the speed limit was not supported. The following is an extract from the letter received from Main Roads WA:

"Main Roads acknowledges that lower speeds are appropriate in certain locations and have been implementing variable and fulltime 40kph speed limit reductions in retail / commercial / alfresco precincts at a number of locations within the metropolitan area. This has necessitated the introduction of selection criteria to qualify for this speed limit. Primary criteria includes; continuous retail / commercial / alfresco development that directly fronts both sides of the road over a distance greater than 400 metres, a significant level of pedestrian activity which generates frequent movement across the road, and kerbside parking resulting in frequent parking manoeuvres e.g. the existing 40 km/h variable speed limit along Beaufort Street.

This section of Vincent Street which Council is seeking a 40kph speed limit, between William Street and Fitzgerald Street, is not classified as retail / commercial / alfresco precinct (strip shopping). The land use adjacent to this section of Vincent Street consists of residential properties and parkland. As such, Main Roads stance on this matter remains unchanged”.

Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 10 March 2015:

Council considered a Notice of Motion on a city - wide posted speed limit reductions where the following decision was made:

“That Council REQUESTS the Chief Executive Officer to carry out a Vincent-wide survey to gauge community opinion on whether the City should consider requesting the State Government to reduce the speed zone on local Vincent streets to 40kph.”

The Mayor and Chief Executive Officer subsequently met with Main Roads WA regarding this matter and Main Roads subsequently wrote to the Mayor on 15 June 2015 advising the following:

“At present there is in-principle support for the Minister for Transport to conduct a trial to assess the benefits from lowering the blanket speed limit to 40kph in the City of Vincent. Key details about the trial include:

- *The trial will be conducted in 3 phases, strategically selected to ensure a successful rollout of the trial.*
- *Subject to Council approval, the first phase would commence in the 4th quarter of 2015 with a 6 to 12 month trial period. Phases 2 and 3 would run for 6 months thereafter.*
- *It is proposed that school zones will be lowered from 40kph to 30kph during the morning and afternoon periods.*

Main Roads is currently working through the logistics of the trial. Following sign-off from the Minister and discussions with the Office of Road Safety, Main Roads officers will be in touch with the City of Vincent to discuss the implementation of the trial”.

Administration subsequently met with Main Roads officers and were advised that the City would need to fund the trial estimated at \$200,000. As there are no funds allocated for this purpose in the City's current budget discussions are continuing.

It should be noted that the section of Vincent Street which is the subject of this Notice of Motion would be included in the first phase of the trial, should it proceed.