

MINUTES

Local Traffic Committee



We're with you

Thursday 26 October 2023
Council Chambers | Civic Centre
68 Elizabeth Street, Moss Vale
The meeting commenced at 9:30am

**MINUTES OF THE LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY 26 OCTOBER 2023**

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**MINUTES OF THE LOCAL TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING
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**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING OF WINGECARRIBEE SHIRE COUNCIL HELD
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON THURSDAY 26 OCTOBER 2023 AT 9:30 AM**

Present:

Formal (Voting) Members:	Mr Shaun Robinson Mr Ankit Bhangale Senior Constable Hayley Upton	Manager Assets Transport for NSW NSW Police
Apology	<i>Mrs Katherine Wood</i> Mr Peter Edwards	<i>Representing the Member for Goulburn</i> Representing the Member for Wollondilly
Informal (Non-Voting) Members:	Mr Michael Rayner Mr Emraul Kayes Mr Brian Speed Mr Luke Lukess	Senior Traffic Engineer Traffic Engineer Road Safety Officer Berrima Buslines
In Attendance:	Chief Inspector Brendan Bernie Inspector Michael Turner Sergeant Dan Stevenson	NSW Police NSW Police NSW Police
Minutes:	Mrs Liz de Graaf	Administration Officer

1 OPENING OF THE MEETING

The Senior Traffic Engineer opened the meeting.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

“Wingecarribee Shire Council acknowledges the Gundungurra and Tharawal people as the traditional custodians of this land we now call the Wingecarribee Shire. I pay my respect to Elders both past, present and emerging. I would also like to extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders present here today.”

3 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Katherine Wood, representing the Member for Goulburn.

4 ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

That the minutes of the Traffic Committee meeting held on Thursday 24 August 2023, recommendation numbers TC 2023/46 to TC 2023/56 inclusive, copies of which were forwarded to Committee members, be adopted as a correct record of the proceedings of the meeting.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The provisions of Chapter 14 of the Local Government Act 1993 regulate the way in which nominated staff of Council conduct themselves to ensure that there is no conflict between their private interests and their public trust.

The Act prescribes that where a member of Council (or a Committee of Council) has a direct or indirect financial (pecuniary) interest in a matter to be considered at a meeting of the Council (or Committee), that interest and the reasons for declaring such interest must be disclosed as soon as practicable after the start of the meeting.

As members are aware, the provisions of the Local Government Act restrict any member who has declared a pecuniary interest in any matter from participating in the discussions or voting on that matter and further require that the member vacate the Chamber.

Council's Code of Conduct provides that if members have a non-pecuniary conflict of interest, the nature of the conflict must be disclosed. The Code also provides for a number of ways in which a member may manage non pecuniary conflicts of interest.

Where necessary any Councillor, Committee Member and nominated staff of Council should disclose any interest and the reason for declaring such interest in the matters under consideration at this meeting.

Councillors and Committee Members are requested to complete the appropriate form to be handed up at the Meeting.

There were no declarations at this meeting.

6 AGENDA REPORTS

6.1 Police Report on recent road crashes in the Shire

Report Author: Administration Officer - Assets
Authoriser: Director Service and Project Delivery

PURPOSE

Reporting on recent road crashes in the Shire recorded by Police.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received and noted.

TC 2023/57

Majority support:

Manager Assets	✓
Transport for NSW	✓
NSW Police	✓
The representative for the Member for Wollondilly	✓
The representative for the Member of Goulburn	-

6.2 Road Safety Officer Progress Report

Report Author: Road Safety Officer
Authoriser: Director Service and Project Delivery

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to update the Traffic Committee on the progress of various projects undertaken by the Road Safety Officer.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received and noted.

TC 2023/58

Majority support:

Manager Assets	✓
Transport for NSW	✓
NSW Police	✓
The representative for the Member for Wollondilly	✓
The representative for the Member of Goulburn	-

6.3 Proposed Bus Stop on Isedale Road, Nattai Ponds

Report Author: Traffic Engineer

Authoriser: Karin Targa, Director Service and Project Delivery

PURPOSE

To provide a new bus stop location on Isedale Road, Nattai Ponds.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the proposed new bus stop location on Isedale Road, Nattai Ponds be recommended for approval.

TC 2023/59

Unanimous support:

Manager Assets	✓
Transport for NSW	✓
NSW Police	✓
The representative for the Member for Wollondilly	✓

6.4 Traffic Committee Requirements in Relation to Coffee and Cars Monthly Event

Report Author: Traffic Engineer

Authoriser: Karin Targa, Director Service and Project Delivery

PURPOSE

To clarify that there is no statutory requirement from the Local Traffic Committee that a traffic management plan is to be implemented for the Coffee and Cars monthly gathering.

COMMUNITY PRESENTATION

Ms Jenny Hunter addressed the Committee on this matter and Ms Hunter's submission is included.

Mr Simon Balderstone addressed the Committee on this matter.

Mr Philip Martin addressed the Committee on this matter.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT There is no statutory requirement from the Local Traffic Committee that a traffic management plan is to be implemented for the Coffee and Cars monthly gathering.

TC 2023/60

Majority support:

Manager Assets	✓
Transport for NSW	✓
NSW Police	✓
The representative for the Member of Goulburn	-

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Mr Michael Rayner
Wingecarribee Shire Council
Elizabeth Street
Moss Vale NSW 2577

22 October 2023

Dear Mr Rayner

Thank you for contacting me about the upcoming WSC Traffic Committee meeting. I emailed a request to address the committee on Friday 20 October 2023. My interest relates to Council's resolution on the Cars and Coffee Southern Highlands event.

Since my June 2023 submission, a Berrima resident has been charged with various offences including "grievous bodily harm" relating to an accident which occurred at the Cars and Coffee event held on Sunday 26 February 2023. (An event attendee, an elderly gentleman, required hospitalisation following the accident.)

My observation of the events in the time since the accident is that there has been no change to how the event is controlled, and therefore the circumstances that led to the above-mentioned accident remain. Every event involves parked and moving cars, and distracted pedestrians on the narrow residential streets around Market Place Park.

My suggestion to Council's April working group was that the narrow residential streets be temporarily closed, except for residents, for the duration of the event. This remains my suggestion but would only solve the safety concerns on some streets including Jellore St.

I'm pleased that Council's resolution refers to the NSW Govt's Special Events Guide (updated 2018) because I have found its information useful about what a special event is and the responsibilities of various authorities, including councils and police, to deal with their impact. (I quoted from the guide in my June submission.)

Page two of this submission is two photos:

1. one photo is a non-event Sunday,
2. second photo is an event Sunday.

These photos illustrate starkly and undeniably the impact on traffic, transport, and the disruption to the non-event community.

From my reading of the NSW Govt Special Event Guide, I believe Council and NSW Police have a responsibility to address with the safety issues produced by the mix of hundreds of moving and parked cars, and hundreds of distracted pedestrians as happens at every Cars and Coffee event.

I would appreciate my complete submission being forwarded to committee members because I will refer various aspects of it in my presentation at Thursday's meeting.

Again, thank you for informing me of the meeting, the resolution, and providing an opportunity to address the committee.

Yours sincerely



Jenny Hunter



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Above: corner of Jellore and Bryan Streets, Sunday 8 October 2023

Below: corner of Jellore and Bryan Streets, Sunday 26 February 2023
(this is morning the accident occurred and the location of accident is visible in photo)



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Mr Michael Rayner
Wingecarribee Shire Council
Elizabeth Street
Moss Vale NSW 2577

13 June 2023

Dear Mr Rayner

The stated purpose of the options outlined in this letter is misleading:

“...congestion, around Berrima Market Place, that has resulted from an increase in visitors to the area.”

As with most problems needing a solution context is important. The increase in number of visitors should refer solely to the 2 hours a month Cars and Coffee Southern Highlands event when hundreds of cars, hundreds of people who arrive on the last Sunday of each month roughly between 8am and 10am. These cars park but also circle the park, and drive slowly. People walk on the road, admiring cars and taking photos.

For the other 353 days of the year, there are no congestion problems in Jellore and Bryan Streets, and Market Place. (See attached photos 1-4 taken recently including the very busy June long weekend.)

Therefore, based on the options provided, the only feasible option is Option 3, ie no change, as the option 1 and 2 don't address the 2-hour congestion and safety problem.

This does not mean, however, that no action is required by Council.

The safety issues created by the monthly Cars and Coffee Southern Highlands event involve the combination of pedestrians and moving cars, on narrow residential streets and the Old Hume Highway.

A further safety issue involves emergency vehicle access.

I have a personal experience which illustrates the importance of emergency vehicle access.

On Sunday 13 November 2022 at 09.00 my partner was experiencing multiple organ failure caused by sepsis and pneumonia, and every second counted. We had an ambulance and two police cars attend on our house in Jellore St. He was rushed to Bowral Hospital and later transported to Campbelltown Hospital where he spent a week in ICU.

Attached is a photo (see attachment photo 5) of Jellore St (photo taken outside our house) two weeks later during the Cars and Coffee event.

I attended the Council's Cars and Coffee working group and one of my suggestions, based on community consultation, was to temporarily close the streets around the park. Council employees repeatedly told me this was not possible. However, it is my understanding that police have communicated with Council that temporary closure is possible and recommended ... based on safety. (see attachments 6 and 7)

I recently attended Berrima's Anzac Day Dawn Service and note that Council has a traffic management plan for this event. This event is much smaller and safer with fewer cars and fewer attendees than Cars and Coffee Southern Highlands monthly event.

Further, the Cars and Coffee event may not be at its present location as it has a track-record of being moved on. I understand it has been held in two, possibly three previous locations. (I

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also understand that an event similar to this in Robertson was closed down by police for safety reasons.)

So the event is temporary and a permanent change to the traffic flow and visual and heritage amenity of the streets around Market Place Park is a misguided overreaction, and doesn't address the safety issues.

On 26 February 2023 an accident occurred on the corner of Jellore and Bryan Streets. A pedestrian was standing **on the road** admiring an **illegally parked car**. (see attached photos 8-10.) A vehicle, as one of a stream of vehicles travelling one way, hit the man. Clearly, this accident would not have been prevented by one-way traffic as the traffic was necessarily travelling one way. (See attached photo 11, a still taken from video of one-way traffic on the same day.)

During the 2 hours of the monthly event, I have witnessed a council ranger walking past illegally parked cars (on intersections, within 10 metres of intersections) with no obvious interest or action. I have seen police vehicles, including highway patrol vehicles, circling Market Place Park on Cars and Coffee Sundays apparently, I'm told, taking videos with a 'view' to checking the footage later to illegally parked cars. (see photos 12-15.)

Is the Traffic Committee aware of any parking infringement notices being issued for offences during Cars and Coffee event?

Has Council conducted any traffic flow studies of the 'congestion'? If any study is to be done it must include summer and winter months as there are different numbers attendings. Also pedestrian movement on Sunday mornings needs to be assessed as this is a significant safety issue.

As Berrima is a heritage village, any changes, including road signs and road markings need to be assessed for their impact on the heritage values. Has this assessment been done, is it planned?

Non-Council members of the Traffic Committee may benefit from some background as to how we reached a point where the disproportionate option of permanent one-way change is put forward as a suitable option.

The starting point to understanding the problem is Council's determined categorisation of the event as an 'invitation to coffee'. My attached photos clearly show this is more than an 'invitation to coffee'. I have provided this evidence to Council before but it has been ignored. I believe my photographic evidence shows that Cars and Coffee is so much more than an 'invitation to coffee'. (Most of the attached photos show what this event is, but most specifically photos 16-21 show the extent of the problem including a wheelchair and a stroller on the roads.)

For example, past events have involved joy rides (entertainment/amusement devices), advertising on public roads or road reserves, (see attached photos 22-25), both features of a 'special event'.

This is a planned event and has features that put it into the 'special event' category.

Council's own website describes a special event as:

"A special event (in traffic management terms) is any planned activity that is wholly or partly conducted on a road reserve, requires multiple agency involvement such as Councils, Police and TfNSW, requires special traffic management arrangements, and may involve large

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numbers of participants and /or spectators. Examples are marathons, fun runs, cycling events, parades, marches and street markets”.

Also available on Council's website is the NSW Government's *Guide to Traffic and Transport Management for Special Events*, Version 3.5, July 1 2018 which says the following:

Whereas the old classification system focused on the type of road (state, regional or local) and estimated crowd sizes, the new classification system focuses on:

- *disruption to traffic and transport systems, and*
- *disruption to the non-event community.*

The “non-event community”, ie the residents of Jellore St and Market Place, have indicated to council that there is disruption but Council through its employees and interim administrator either ignores, disregards, denies and pays lip service to our concerns. Most of my attached photos indicate that there is disruption to traffic.

Council has communicated this erroneous 'invitation to coffee' categorisation to the NSW government, Transport for NSW; and the Member for Goulburn, Ms Wendy Tuckerman.

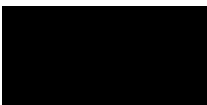
This inadequate and incorrect categorisation prevents real action to deal with the public safety issues presented by the mix of hundreds of moving cars and pedestrians on narrow residential roads and the Old Hume Highway.

I had a meeting with the Interim Administrator to discuss the nature, impact and public safety aspects of the Cars and Coffee event and the evidence I had provided to council about the features of the event. I also spoke of my frustration at the intransigence of the Council's categorisation as an 'invitation to coffee'. He said he felt the one-way option was a disproportionate response to the problem.

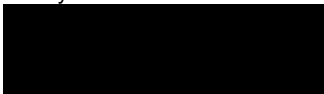
As a resident and ratepayer I feel strongly that while the Council is in administration and we have no democratically elected representation, council employees need to be careful how they use their decision-making powers. In this case, the categorisation of Cars and Coffee Southern Highlands as an 'invitation to coffee' is worthy of television comedies such as 'Yes Minister' or 'Utopia'. Council needs to start again on a real solution to the public safety problems caused by this event.

So I strongly vote for option 3 of the options provided by Council.

Yours sincerely



Jenny Hunter



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Attachment photos 1-4



Photo 1: 10 June 2023 11.13am



Photo 2: 11 June 2023 11.50am



Photo 3: 12 June 2023 11.13am

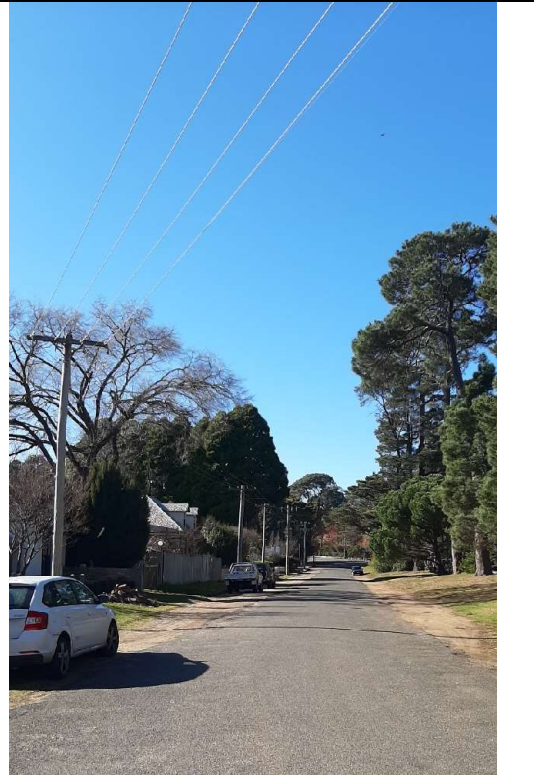


Photo 4: 13 June 2023 10.31am

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Attachment photo 5

27 November 2022 8:57 am



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Attachment (screenshot from Council's website) photo 6



STATEMENTS

Old South Road and Range Road limited to residential traffic only

1 July, 2022

Wingecarribee Shire Council advises that both Old South Road and Range Road will be temporarily closed from 3pm on Friday 1 July 2022 as a precautionary measure in anticipation of the weekend's forecast heavy rainfall.

Both roads will be closed to general traffic with access limited to local residents only.

Range Road will be temporarily closed from the Tourist Road intersection north to the roundabout on Old South Road. Likewise, Old South Road will be closed from the aforementioned roundabout north to the junction of the Old Hume Highway.

The decision to temporarily close both roads and only permit residential traffic was made in the interests of public safety and following consultation with NSW Police.

Both roads will be reassessed following the predicted heavy rainfall event.

Council apologises for any inconvenience and reminds motorists to never drive through flood waters.

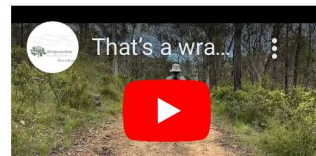
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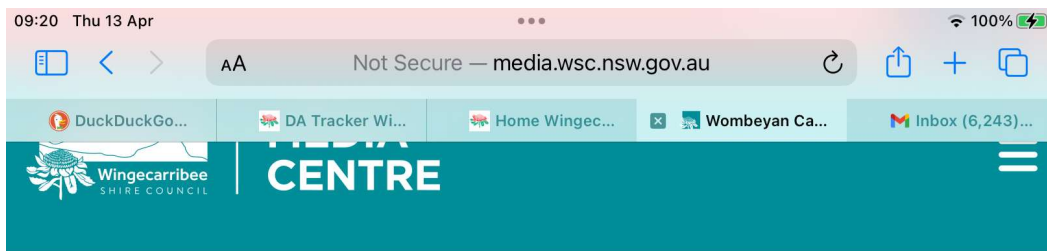
FEATURED VIDEOS

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Attachment (screenshot from Council's website) photo 7



STATEMENTS

Wombeyan Caves Road closure

10 December, 2019

Wingecarribee Shire Council wishes to advise that Wombeyan Caves Road has been closed at High Range Lane following a request from the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS).

All west-bound traffic must terminate at the junction of High Range Lane until further notice. Local residents excepted.

The precautionary closure is effective immediately and is a result of deteriorating weather conditions and increased fire activity including back burning operations and heavy vehicle containment work currently underway in the area.

A variable message board and road closure barricades have been erected on site.

For more information follow the *RFS Southern Highlands Team* on Facebook or download the *Fires Near Me* smartphone app for iOS and Android devices.

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Attachment photo 8

(This shows where the illegally parked car, which was being admired
by the pedestrian who was hit by vehicle on 26 Feb 2023.



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Attachment photo 9
another view of illegally parked car which contributed to accident



Attachment photo 10
Ambulance attending injured pedestrian showing where he was being treated, ie on the road



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Attachment photo 11

A still photo from a video taken on the same morning as the accident on 26 Feb 2023.

Note the illegally parked cars and the one-way traffic

11-sec video available on request from the writer of this letter.



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Attachment photos 12-13

Joy rides (or amusement devices) charging gold coin for a drive around Market Place Park from Old Hume Highway
The point of including these photos is that 'amusement devices' are part of a special event



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Attachment 12-15
Cars parked on or within 10m of an intersection, ie parked illegally,
photos taken 26 Feb and 26 March 2023



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Attachment photos 16-17
Advertising on public road reserve



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Attachment photos 18-19

Photos of an event which a council employee has categorised as an 'invitation to coffee'



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Attachment photos 20-21

This is the event which a council employee has categorised as an 'invitation to coffee'



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Attachment photos 22-23

These photos show a child in a stroller amongst the moving cars and other pedestrians;
and a person in a wheelchair on the Old Hume Highway



6.5 Angels in our Town Street Parade, Bong Bong Street, Bowral

Report Author: Traffic Engineer

Authoriser: Karin Targa, Director Service and Project Delivery

PURPOSE

To assess the traffic management plan and traffic guidance scheme for Angels in our Town street parade.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the proposed traffic arrangements for 'Angels in our Town' street parade, proposed to be held on 2 December 2023 on Bong Bong Street, Bowral, be recommended for approval subject to the implementation of the approved Traffic Management Plan and approval from the Police Service in accordance with the Guide to Traffic and Transport Management for Special Events for a Class 2 event.

TC 2023/61

Unanimous support:

Manager Assets	✓
Transport for NSW	✓
NSW Police	✓
The representative for the Member for Wollondilly	✓

6.6 Iris Country Fair Traffic Management Plan

Report Author: Traffic Engineer

Authoriser: Karin Targa, Director Service and Project Delivery

PURPOSE

To assess the traffic management plan and traffic guidance schemes for Iris Country Fair, to be held at Frensham School on Saturday 18 November 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the traffic arrangements for Iris Country Fair, proposed to be held on 18 November 2023 at Frensham School, Range Road, Mlttagong, be recommended for approval subject to the implementation of the approved Traffic Management Plan and approval from the Police Service in accordance with the Guide to Traffic and Transport Management for Special Events for a Class 2 event.

TC 2023/62

Unanimous support:

Manager Assets	✓
Transport for NSW	✓
NSW Police	✓
The representative for the Member for Wollondilly	✓

6.7 The Southern Highlands Food and Wine Festival, and Christmas Night Markets

Report Author: Traffic Engineer

Authoriser: Karin Targa, Director Service and Project Delivery

PURPOSE

To assess the traffic management plan and traffic guidance schemes for Christmas Night Markets and Southern Highlands Food and Wine Festival to be held at Corbett Gardens, Bowral, between 7 December and 10 December 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the traffic arrangements for Christmas Night Markets and, Southern Highlands Food and Wine Festival, proposed to be held between 7 December and 10 December at Corbett Gardens, Bowral, be recommended for approval subject to the implementation of the approved Traffic Management Plan and approval from the Police Service in accordance with the Guide to Traffic and Transport Management for Special Events for a Class 2 event.

TC 2023/63

Unanimous support:

Manager Assets ✓

Transport for NSW ✓

NSW Police ✓

The representative for the Member for Wollondilly ✓

6.8 2024 Australia Day Celebrations

Report Author: Traffic Engineer

Authoriser: Karin Targa, Director Service and Project Delivery

PURPOSE

To consider traffic management arrangements for the proposed 2024 Australia Day Celebrations in Berrima

RECOMMENDATION

THAT there is no objection to the road closure proposed for the Australia Day celebrations in Berrima on Friday 26 January 2024 subject to the completion of all requirements detailed in the Guide to Traffic and Transport Management for Special Events for a class 2 event.

THAT the speed be reduced on both approaches into Berrima.

TC 2023/64

Majority support:

Manager Assets	✓
Transport for NSW	✓
NSW Police	✓
The representative for the Member of Goulburn	-

6.9 Mount Broughton Road Double Barrier Lines

Report Author: Traffic Engineer

Authoriser: Karin Targa, Director Service and Project Delivery

PURPOSE

To assess the replacement of dashed continuity road centre line marking to double barrier line marking.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the proposed double barrier centre line marking for Mount Broughton Road be approved for installation.

TC 2023/65

Majority support:

Manager Assets	✓
Transport for NSW	✓
NSW Police	✓
The representative for the Member of Goulburn	-

7 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 23 November 2023 in the Council Chambers, Civic Centre, Elizabeth Street, Moss Vale commencing at 9:30am.

8 MEETING CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 10:54am.