



# Bonny Hills Progress Association INC.

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26 August 2020

Mrs Leslie Williams, MP  
Suite 6  
27 Grant Street  
Port Macquarie  
NSW 2444

Attention Brendan Seed

Dear Leslie

Further to our conversation with you recently, we provide greater detail about the Bonny Hills Community's concerns regarding the intersection between Houston Mitchell Drive [H-M] and the Pacific Highway [Pac H'way].

## Prelude

- The definitive solution to the safety issues identified below for the H-M/Pac H'way intersection is to install an overpass, but we understand this is unlikely to happen for some time.
- Until then interim solutions need to be found and implemented.
- The volume of traffic using H-M has and will continue to increase for a range of reasons: Area 14 population growth and development which also involves more intersections along Ocean Drive on the way to Port Macquarie; increasing numbers of visitors to Rainbow Beach; proposal for a Light Industrial Park at Ocean Drive/H-M intersection; proposed school near Bonny View Drive.
- Includes cars with vans, motor homes, quarry trucks, service vehicles, commuters going to and from Port Macquarie and Wauchope
- Many visitors and tourists unfamiliar with the area and roads
- In its present state the intersection is a serious accident waiting to happen.

Specific safety Issues and possible solutions are detailed below:

### 1/ Travelling on H-M approaching the Pac H'way

- Vehicles coming up 'unexpectedly' on the junction (travelling west on H-M) have lack of vision given the curve a short distance before it
- Many of these are towing large loads and so have increased braking distances

### Possible solutions

- Rough hatching on the road [as on the Pac H'way going south onto the roundabout at Heatherbrae]
- Improved warning signage on H-M further back from the junction

### 2/ Left turn out of H-M onto the Pac H'way

- Vehicles turning left onto the Pac H'way heading south with poor line of sight to the north have to get up to 100-110kph immediately because of the absence of a safety lane of sufficient length

### Possible solutions

- Install a safety lane of sufficient length
- Slow the traffic on the Pacific Highway heading south

### 3/. Right turn out of H-M onto the Pac H'way

- Vehicles turning right onto the Pac H'way to head north, have to cross the H'way from a standing start [from a Stop sign] with poor line of sight to the north and vehicles approaching at 110kph;
- Vehicles coming from the south wanting to cross the H'way into H-M – even more dangerous if this is at the same time as the above [will have priority over vehicles at the stop sign but tourists may not recognise this]

### Possible solutions

- Flashing lights on the eastern side of the Pac H'way set back a sufficient distance [as is the case for junctions at other locations on this H'way]
- Reduced speed limit prior to approaching the junction [as is the case for junctions at other locations on this H'way]
- Better signage on HMD and Pacific Highway

#### 4/ Turning left into H-M when travelling south on the Pac H'way

- Vehicles coming up at 110kph travelling south on Pac H'way with vehicles behind them in both lanes travelling at speed and only a short section of pull-off lane before the H-M junction

#### Possible solutions

- Extend the length of the pull-off lane
- Improved signage further back
- Flashing lights well back on the Pac H'way
- Reduce traffic speed for this section

We trust this clarifies the extent and seriousness of our community's concerns, but if anything is unclear please feel free to contact me.

Thank you and regards

Roger Barlow  
President  
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