



MEDIA RELEASE

DIM FUTURE FOR BRISBANE'S VULTURE STREET

2 October 2007

The future for Brisbane's Vulture Street looks dim unless action is taken to address pressures from population growth and the Hale Street Link, according to a study commissioned by three Brisbane Business Associations.

The report, jointly commissioned by the South Bank Business Association (SBBA), West End Traders Association (WETA) and Woolloongabba Business Association (GBA), found that peak period congestion was already excessive along sections of Vulture St and that the Hale Street Link will exacerbate the problem.

Brisbane City Council has agreed to meet the associations to discuss the report.

SBBA, WETA and GBA, together known as the City South Business Liaison Group, commissioned the *Future of Vulture Street, West End to East Brisbane* discussion paper based on concerns that Vulture Street was not operating efficiently for traffic, pedestrians or cyclists.

The report says this situation would be exacerbated by the Hale Street Link which will provide a direct connection from the Inner City Bypass through to Vulture Street.

The Hale Street Link Impact Assessment Study suggests that by 2021 the bridge will increase traffic through the South Brisbane area by about 11,200 vehicles per day, approximately 40% of which will use Vulture Street.

The *Future of Vulture Street* discussion paper, which has been provided to the Brisbane City Council for its response, was produced by leading traffic and transportation consultants, McCormick Cagney Rankin. It found that Vulture Street:

- in most parts (excluding the section through West End), was operating at higher than acceptable peak traffic congestion;
- lacked continuity of identity along the length of the street;
- had footpaths and pedestrian facilities that were sub-standard, particularly in the high pedestrian areas near schools, hospitals and tertiary institutions;
- offered limited on-street cycle facilities;
- in many areas, had narrow traffic lanes; and
- offered limited shade for pedestrians.

The report lists 15 short and long term initiatives that would help to make Vulture Street a secure, comfortable, distinctive and functional street, including:

- Conducting a pedestrian safety audit;
- Developing a pedestrian network linking South Bank Parklands to the Brisbane Cricket Ground;
- Implementing differential speed zones during periods of increased pedestrian demand;
- Identifying locations for additional street landscaping to improve shade;
- Planning for the widening of footpaths; and
- Planning for a pedestrian overpass from the Brisbane Cricket Ground to the Woolloongabba busway.

The City South Business Liaison Group proposes to use the discussion paper in discussions with the Brisbane City Council and has invited the Council to use the findings in its future planning for the area.

[Note: Vulture Street extends approximately 5km in an east-west direction from West End to East Brisbane].

Ends

**For further information, please contact: Peter Marinelli, President,
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