

**TRAFFIC COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE MURRAY ROOM, GRIFFITH ON
TUESDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER 2025 COMMENCING AT 10:33 AM**

PRESENT

Councillor Tony O'Grady (Chair), Wade Sheales (Transport for NSW Representative, via Zoom), Kerry Lippold (Member for Murray Representative, via Zoom), Greg Lynch (Police Representative)

STAFF

Director Infrastructure & Operations, Phil King, Development & Traffic Coordinator, Greg Balind, Development & Traffic Engineer, Ronelle Green and Minute Secretary, Melanie Hebrok

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Anne Napoli, Tony Leadbitter, Greg Minehan, Graham Gordon and Jason Carrozza.

2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Kerry Lippold and Councillor Tony O'Grady that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 July 2025, having first been circulated amongst all members, be confirmed.

3 BUSINESS ARISING**3.1 Business Arising – Speed Zone Reviews**

Mr Balind asked for an update regarding the current suspension of speed zone reviews, with Mr Sheales stating that TfNSW were still awaiting advice from the Centre for Road Safety regarding priority of reviews.

Mr King expressed ongoing frustration with delays from the state government and TfNSW in reviewing and implementing speed zones, particularly on new roads. The lack of formalised speed limits leaves local police without clear guidance and creates potential safety risks. Council has delegation to implement temporary speed zones which may be used as an interim safety measure to prevent dangerous conditions.

Mr King noted that if no response or action is received from TfNSW by early in the new year, Council may need to proceed independently with temporary speed zones to ensure public safety and to avoid accountability for inaction in the event of an incident.

Mr Sheales to take Council's concerns and proposals back to the department and provide a response, with the issue to be revisited at the next Traffic Committee meeting in October.

3.2 Business Arising – Request for 40km/h School Zone – Western Riverina Community School

Mr Balind asked for an update on the request. Mr Sheales advised that TfNSW has communicated with the school that a school zone will not be implemented at this time but the area will be observed and inspected at a later date.

3.3 Business Arising – Probert Avenue Car Park

Mr Balind tabled the 2012 design for a single-lane roundabout on the Macarthur Street / Probert Avenue intersection, as requested by Councillor Napoli at the previous meeting. He noted that traffic volumes have increased significantly since then and the design would not be suitable for current requirements around the intersection. A new design request has been raised with the design team and will be presented to the Committee once drafted, however this may be a little while away due to current workloads.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Pecuniary Interests

There were no pecuniary interests declared.

Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

Less Than Significant Non-Pecuniary Interests

There were no less than significant non-pecuniary interests declared.

5 ITEMS OF BUSINESS

CL01 NEW AUTHORISATION AND DELEGATION INSTRUMENT - PRESCRIBED TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES AND REGULATION OF TRAFFIC

Mr Balind presented TfNSW's new authorisation and delegation document and noted that Council was given only 4 working days' notice before the instrument came into effect. No prior consultation was held with Griffith City Council regarding the changes.

The new instrument provides increased delegation and flexibility to Councils in managing traffic control devices on local road networks. Some matters are still required to be reported to the Traffic Committee. The changes significantly alter the role of the Traffic Committee and the nature of discussions that must come before it.

Mr Balind further noted that the instrument recommends renaming the Traffic Committee to 'Local Transport Forum', however 'transport' may be too narrow a term and does not reflect the full scope of local road network management. Council prefers to retain a more inclusive and accurate name e.g., Traffic Forum.

Mr Sheales will seek clarification on the ability to change the name proposed in the new instrument.

Mr King argued that ambiguities remain around the definition of State roads versus local roads and with it the exact delegation boundaries between Council and Transport for NSW. For example, what constitutes the 'State Road Asset' where ownership lies with Council but management/control may rest with the State. The lack of clarity could lead to misinterpretation or overreach by Councils.

Mr Balind advised a number of recommendations regarding the changes came from the NSW Bus Industry Taskforce – an organisation Griffith City Council has no part of.

Mr Sheales to clarify delegations, especially in relation to the State Road Network and report back at the next Committee meeting.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Tony O'Grady and Greg Lynch that the information be noted and included as a standing item on the Traffic Committee agenda until further advice is received from TfNSW.

CL02 TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT - GRIFFITH CYCLE CLUB 2026 SUNDAY EVENTS

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Tony O'Grady and Greg Lynch that:

- (a) The Traffic Committee note the Event Management Plan and Traffic Guidance Schemes for the Griffith Cycle Club Road Race Season 2026.
- (b) Griffith City Council endorse the event on the condition that Council is provided with an updated Public Liability Certificate of Currency by the Griffith Cycle Club prior to the close of business on 14 February 2026.

CL03 TRAFFIC CONTROL - GRIFFITH CYCLE CLUB DEAN CARTER MEMORIAL EVENT 2026

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Tony O'Grady and Greg Lynch that the Traffic Committee endorse the Event Management Plan and Traffic Guidance Schemes for the Griffith Cycle Club's Dean Carter Memorial Road Race 2026.

CL04 REQUEST TO INSTALL PICKUP/DROP OFF ZONE AND CHILDREN'S SCHOOL CROSSING - ST PATRICK'S SCHOOL

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Tony O'Grady and Greg Lynch that the report be raised from the table for discussion.

Mr Balind advised that since the last Traffic Committee meeting in July, Council representatives and Ms Lippold met with the school and reviewed the Quantum traffic report provided by the school regarding proposed changes to the Noorebar Avenue car park site (Council-owned land). Council provided initial feedback to the school at that meeting, raising concerns about works already implemented without Council consent and aspects of the school's future development proposal. No formal response has been received from the Wagga Diocese or the school since that meeting.

The Committee agreed that the item will be held over until further information is received. An update will be provided at the next meeting, if available.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Tony O'Grady that the report be laid back on the table.

CL05 NOOREBAR AVENUE ROAD RESERVE - ST PATRICK'S PRIMARY SCHOOL REQUEST

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Tony O'Grady and Wade Sheales that the report be raised from the table for discussion.

The school requested a review of the current signage restricting right turns from the Noorebar Avenue carpark between 3:00 PM and 3:30 PM on school days, suggesting it be extended to cover all school hours due to observed morning right turns.

Mr Balind noted that the current restriction is when congestion is at its highest due to school pickup however morning drop-off is more staggered, with fewer traffic issues. The restriction was originally introduced based on observed safety and congestion concerns during the afternoon peak. No recent evidence, incidents, or complaints have been received to warrant a change.

Concerns were raised about potential unintended impacts of an all-day restriction (e.g., non-school events such as funerals requiring access to the cemetery).

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Councillor Tony O'Grady and Greg Lynch that the status quo remains and the school's request to extend the 'no-right-turn' restriction out of the Noorebar Avenue carpark to school hours is denied.

6 OUTSTANDING ACTION REPORT

The Committee discussed and updated the Outstanding Action Report.

3.1 Yenda Railway Crossing Update

Mr King provided the following update:

- Council has received works approval from Transport to proceed with surface upgrades at the rail crossing.
- Contractors are scheduled to begin works in October.
- Delays are being caused by UGL requiring rail induction training for contractors, despite Council's exemption. Council is addressing these issues.
- The planned works involve a surface upgrade only, with no changes to existing signage - the crossing will remain a passive crossing.
- Completion is expected by the end of the second week in October.

7 GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 Abattoir Road

Ms Lippold asked for an update regarding recent correspondence between Council, residents and the local member's office. Mr King stated that Council's current position is to adhere to Australian standards and proceed with the existing design, which aligns Abattoir Road directly north to intersect with New Mallinson Road. Residents have expressed concerns about vegetation and safety related to the proposed alignment. Council is continuing consultation with affected property owners to explore alternative designs.

A meeting involving elected representatives, Council staff, and property owners is planned for later this week to discuss the options. Correspondence updates will be shared with the Local Member.

8 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Traffic Committee is to be held on Tuesday, 14 October 2025 at 10:30 am.

There being no further business the meeting terminated at 11:16 am.