



Response to Queen Street and Esplanade masterplan

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Queen Street Esplanade masterplan.

It's great to see the council recognise the importance of wider paths along the foreshore and through built-up areas to allow people to easily ride and scoot who may not be comfortable on roads mixing with traffic.

Raised crossings

Raised table crossings are a feature of Safe Systems design to modify the streetscape to show drivers that people walking, riding and scooting have priority through an intersection. Such street changes are important indicators for drivers to slow down and give way, alongside reductions in speed limits.

Path markings

The artist impressions of the new path around the Esplanade and Queen Street look great but the one thing missing is the surface marking to encourage people to share the path. Parts of the Foreshore Trail already do this with a centre line to help people keep left and arrows with pedestrian and cycling symbols to let people know what to expect. Such markings are an important feature in people understanding how to move through an area. This will be especially important along the Queen Street path as people may need a reminder they are on a shared path because of the change in streetscape.

Queen Street

Queen Street is a convenient cut through to Bellerive and the ferry terminal for people who don't have the time to use the longer Foreshore Trail route. Providing a wide shared path for people who are riding and scooting will be an encouragement for more people to ride and scoot to catch the ferry or access the village.

It is good to see the plan factors in space between the property boundaries and path to give drivers the opportunity to see if there are people passing before fully exiting, as this is a danger that needs to be managed.

Path widening

Bicycle Network supports the widening of the Foreshore Trail in the different nominated sections to 3 metres. With thousands of people using the trail every week, it demands at least a 3 metre width to accommodate all users.

We also support the closure of the Esplanade perimeter road to vehicle traffic around the Bluff. The current path is too narrow for the thousands of people using it every week and the need for vehicle traffic through there is limited.
