



19 April 2012

Evan Matheson
Dunedin City Council
PO Box 5045
DUNEDIN 9058

RE: Anzac Avenue Road Safety

I am writing to you with regard to our concerns surrounding the safety of pedestrians needing to cross Anzac Avenue to access the University Plaza complex and the Hocken Library. As you are aware, a pedestrian crossing has recently been installed near the intersection with Union Street East, but the University is still concerned with the high volumes of fast moving traffic using Anzac Avenue. The number of students using this area has increased considerably in recent months since the opening of the Plaza Building, and informal crossing of the road is still prevalent despite the presence of the crossing.

The purpose of the State Highway 88 realignment project was to divert traffic away from the Forsyth Barr Stadium site as well as provide a more efficient route for heavy vehicles travelling between Port Chalmers and the city. However there is no evidence of a decrease in the traffic using Anzac Avenue, often at high speed. This situation has been exacerbated by the lack of traffic lights at the main intersection of Frederick St, the Highway and Anzac Avenue adjacent to the Hocken Library.

It is understood that the Council is currently involved in High Court proceedings with a Mr Doug Hall, who is allegedly preventing the installed traffic lights being switched on due to dissatisfaction regarding vehicle access to his land. Traffic may be using Anzac Avenue in preference to the Highway due to the current need to cross an uncontrolled intersection. Without any form of signal control, there are few huffs in the traffic flow and no reduction to the overall speed of traffic to allow pedestrians to safely cross the road.

Visibility also continues to be an issue as vehicles are still permitted to park on the Water of Leith bridge, preventing pedestrians and vehicles exiting the College of Education car park from seeing oncoming traffic from a distance. The Facility Manager for the area Peter McGrouther has recently discussed this issue with your department and it is understood that Council has offered to remove 16 metres of parking from the bridge to improve sightlines. The University would prefer that parking is removed from the bridge entirely, but accepts this proposal. Staff will monitor the effectiveness of the works and report back to Council if it is found to be insufficient.

It is hoped that a timely resolution to the traffic light issue will improve traffic volume and speeds on Anzac Avenue. It is requested that the University be kept informed of the progress of the High Court case where possible. Property Services will continue to monitor the situation closely and if there is not an improvement to traffic behaviour once the lights are functioning, further discussions with Council on traffic management in the area may be required.

Please contact the Resource Planner/Policy Adviser Katrina Roos on 03 479 8024 or katrina.roos@otago.ac.nz if you have any questions about the contents of this letter.

Yours sincerely

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