

Pickering Brook Cycling Meeting

Feedback Summary

Project background

In recent months the Shire has received a number of complaints and enquiries in relation to the regularity and impact of cycling events, training runs and inappropriate behaviour from road cyclists generally – particularly from residents in the Pickering Brook area. The Shire has committed to working with cycling clubs and the community to address the issues and communicate broadly about 'Cycling in the Shire', including expectations for cycling behaviour, motorist behaviour, and following the road rules at all times.

The Shire initiated meetings and discussions early in 2017 and developed a communications plan to more proactively share its position and messages for cycling in the Shire.

Two meetings between the Shire, cycling clubs and local police who regularly hold and approve events were held in early 2017. Discussions covered the nature of complaints, reviewing the regularity and routes for cycling events, as well as event and traffic management approval processes and conditions. A community meeting was then held in Pickering Brook at the end of March, with residents mostly impacted to hear their concerns.

Project engagement objectives

- To bring all stakeholders together to discuss issues and propose solutions
- To hear from residents who are most highly impacted
- To share all perspectives and get adequate feedback to inform next steps and actions

Workshop format

Led by the Shire Chief Executive Officer the meeting with residents was a workshop where participants had the opportunity to discuss and write down their primary concerns, impacts experienced and any ideas for dealing with them.

The Shire then presented some facts from the Events and Traffic Management offices about the process and conditions placed cycling event applicants for approval. The audience also heard from a local Senior Sergeant from WA Police on how to report cycling incidences and offences, and WA cycling body WestCycle, about the rising profile of cycling in WA and a new Code of Conduct being introduced.

Three handout materials were also available including a list of Shire cycling events approved to date for 2017, a Cycling in the Shire Frequently Asked Questions and a Department of Transport Cycling Rules booklet.

Summary of feedback

More than 50 people attended the workshop at the Pickering Brook Sports Club held on Wednesday 29 March 2017, from 5:00pm – 7:00pm. The key themes of feedback received included the following.

Issues

- Narrow roads are unsafe - Pickering Brook Rd, Forrest Rd & Repatriation Drive loop
- Congestion and delays, slowing traffic
- Speeding
- No indicating
- Riding on wrong side of the road
- Access to properties
- Local business impacts
- Too many events/ coordinated training runs
- Blind corners, traffic hazards

- Riding in packs
- Traffic management – no approval or management required on training days
- Follow up during and after events (checking on conditions being met)

Social Impacts

- Rudeness / lack of respect / arrogance
- Littering
- Cyclists not giving anything back to enhance the community
- Events season conflicts with fruit season
- Impact on school grounds – rubbish
- Stealing
- Noisy
- Conversation and language easily heard
- Rasping spokes of wheels are very noisy



Communication

- Notification of events not enough
- Signs don't work
- Reporting of incidents is necessary
- Only three cycling incidents reported for whole of Perth area since January 2017. None reported for Pickering Brook area

Proposed Solutions

Who	Solutions discussed
Cycling clubs & associations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More communication and education required re: cyclist etiquette • Promote riding in single file / two abreast • Let motorists pass • Code of Conduct being introduced • Cycling clubs to give back to Pickering Brook community somehow
Shire of Kalamunda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earlier & broader notification of events to residents • Notify via community Facebook pages as well • Better & earlier signage on site for events • Audit traffic management at cycling events • Facilitate ongoing consultation between stakeholders
State Government & Police	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedicated pathways • Better bike planning • Surveillance cameras • Police to allocate patrol cars to large events • Police to follow up reported unlawful behaviour • Improved local facilities and roads • Consider a fee or registration for cyclists – to identify them
Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report offences to Police • Follow the road rules & traffic management for events • Let the Shire know if you want to receive updates (email)

Next steps...

- Share Feedback Summary with all stakeholders.
- Call for interest in establishing a Cycling in the Shire working group with a terms of reference.
- Nominate a representative from each stakeholder group to continue meeting and follow up proposed solutions – with a commitment to report back on outcomes at regular intervals.
- Each representative will communicate updates to broader membership and community groups.