

ENHANCED WARNING SIGNAGE

ROAD SAFETY UPGRADE

Background

The McLaren Vale District was surveyed in the nineteenth century, involving a predominantly grid-based network of roads and land parcels.

Whilst this logical road network pattern provides us with good levels of accessibility, the resultant abundance of four-way junctions increases the potential for crashes when drivers are distracted or are unfamiliar with the area. This is particularly concerning in an area that relies on high levels of tourism.

The traditional approach to reduce the risk of drivers accidently running through Give Way or Stop signs has involved significant and costly works such as offsetting the side roads so that they are staggered or installing a roundabout. Unfortunately, it would take many years to fund and build any such upgrades throughout the McLaren Vale area.

Project Proposal

Whilst the likelihood of crashes occurring at low-volume intersections is minimised compared to busier intersections, the severity of crashes remains the same should a collision occur.

To improve driver awareness of an upcoming intersection, we propose to install 'Enhanced Warning Signage' at a number of intersections throughout the McLaren Vale road network.

Enhanced Warning Signage involves the installation of standard intersection signage onto large, yellow backing boards which are more noticeable to drivers in both daylight and at night. These indicate that drivers are approaching a site that could be more hazardous than a standard intersection.

Two different levels of Enhanced Warning Signage will be considered for each intersection depending site-specific risk factors:

- Level 1: Upgraded Give Way or Stop signs at intersection, with advanced warning signage provided approximately 180m from intersection
- Level 2: Same as Level 1, with additional advanced warning signage provided 300m from intersection

Depending on other risk factors, additional line marking and guideposts around the intersection may also be installed to supplement advanced warning signs.

