

Avondale Community Action
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May 8th, 2015

To whom it may concern

Avondale Community Action posted your request for feedback re the Pedestrian Crossing up grades Of St Jude St/ Great North Road Round about.

Below are un edited response from locals posted on our facebook page plus feed back about their other concerns in different areas that they think are high priority.

Tamsyn Rose The main roundabout at the intersection of Great North Rd, St Jude St, St George's Rd and Wingate Street has had multiple accidents due to drivers using the wrong lanes and crossing in front of other vehicles. Eg. Only the right lane can be used to travel from St Georges Rd to Wingate, but people use the left in error and cut in to the other lane without looking. I suggest clear signage showing which lane must be used for which exit.

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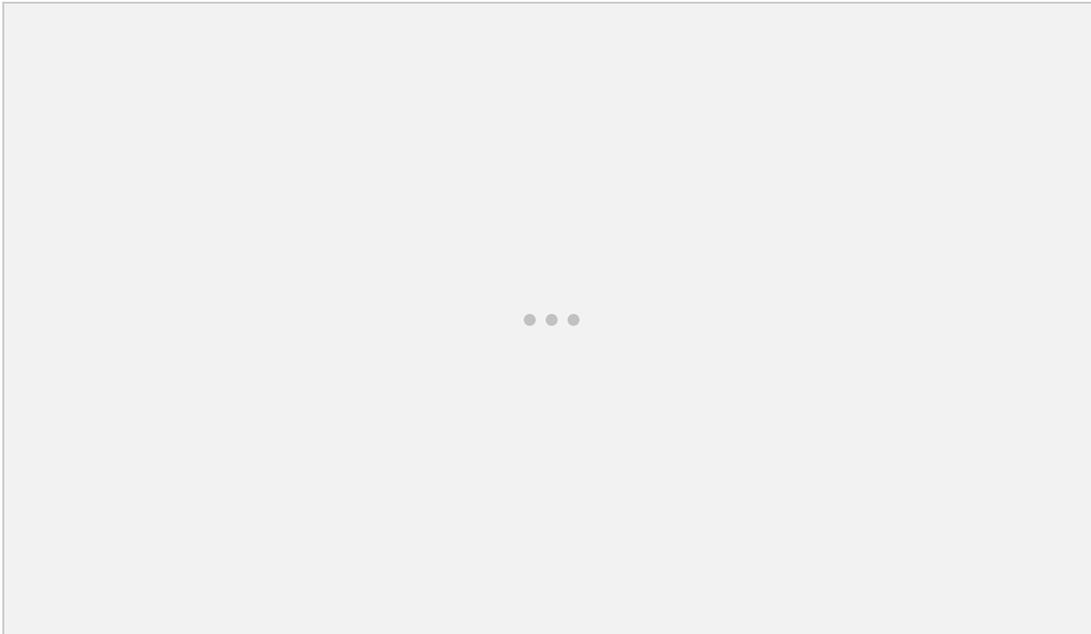
Michael Cox I haven't seen that specifically, but I do think the left lane of Great North Rd entering the roundabout heading out of Avondale should be "Buses only may turn right from the left lane" Travelling from St Georges Rd, if you can see car's coming on from the right lane opposite, you know they are going to be turning in front of you, but if they are in the left lane and have haven't bothered to indicate, it's easy to assume they are going left or straight.

[Like](#) · 1 · 1 May at 21:50

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Tamsyn Rose Most drivers on that roundabout either fail to indicate altogether or use their indicators incorrectly! Altogether, it's a very dodgy roundabout, and I'm sure we can improve that intersection!

In response to this photo of the Great North Road Pedestrian crossing, apparently cars mount the footpath next to the pedestrian crossing to get to the car park in front of the lodge: (see In picture)



Geoff Purcell writes: Ridiculous Council to allow cars to cross the footpath and onto the pedestrian crossing. This needs sorting out as the cobbles are getting damaged and uneven. This can't be legal surely

Michael Cox What would actually help a lot is putting in bright LED cat's eyes on the pedestrian crossing that are triggered by pedestrians standing on pressure sensors on the footpath. A working example of this is at Royal Oak roundabout. There are certain times of year when the sun rises over St Judes St, making it very hard to see pedestrians on the crossing.

Gregory Hemingway Having used both a lot - why bother? People are courteous enough that St Judes crossing doesn't need it.

The Great North Road one, you'll have issues with the people pulling into the carpark using the ped crossing (the footpath is a wreck from it)

Other Feed back about pedestrian safety in Avondale

Clinton Lambourn Rosebank Rd/ Mead St is now a mess thanks to the development of Jomac PI. Would also like to see something installed on Mead St from Waterton PI to Rosebank to deter the large amount of speeders, and huge volumes of traffic that cut through to get to other main roads.

Frenchie Swallows Speed bumps or chicanes on Henry street, our neighbours have lost cats due to speed and level of traffic over last six months and near misses and minor crashes! No one stops for the stop sign!

Silvia Spieksma I am concerned that they haven't looked at creating a safe crossing between Carls Jnr and Mobil Gas station on Great North road. Crossing there is russian roulette!

In reply to Silvia / was **Tamsyn Rose** : I don't even try anymore - I go the long way across all the other crossings. The cars are so fast along there, coming off the roundabout. Some drivers seem to think they can just go really fast through the roundabout without even slowing. Perhaps a speed camera would do the trick!

Teresa Stoneman How about changing the light phasing at Rosebank/Ash? When you're driving up Rosebank trying to turn left onto Ash you have to contend with dozens of kids crossing the road at the same time.

Victoria Joe A road marking needs to be highlighted clearer at the entrance of the library car park on Rosebank Road (like the one further down the road) as cars block the entrance and you can't turn right, blocking traffic behind you.

Like · Reply · 1 · 1 May at 09:34 ·

Tamsyn Rose Yes, this is a problem

Michelle Noronha A signal on the intersection of Larch St & Great North road would be great, i've seen a lot of near misses there. Thanks Shona

Mark Yallop Red light cameras on Great North Road / Ash street - every day I see multiple cars running through blatant red lights..

Michael Cox which intersection? those roads intersection in two places

Like · 1 May at 17:30

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Mark Yallop Mostly victor Street / Henry st

Like · 1 May at 21:42

Michelle Burstall I'd like to see more action in dealing with the red light runners at the Rosebank Road and Ash Street intersection. I walk over that intersection daily and it's dangerous with the amount of red light runners.

Like · Reply · 2 · 1 May at 07:11

Michael Cox Isn't there a new red light camera there? Or am I thinking of the next intersection ?

Michelle Burstall Yep. There is, Michael. But - I don't know how effective it is and which direction of cars it actually catches. I've asked this question to the Avondale Community Policing Page I think and have received no response.

Lisa Truttman Some sort of a pedestrian crossing at the end of Methuen Road across Blockhouse Bay Road would be nice for accessing the bus stop and railway station with peak traffic ...

Adrienne Sutton The intersection of New Windsor and Charmers. It's terrifying some days going down blockhouse bay rd. That intersection is a shocker... And while I'm here speed bumps at the beginning of Methuen to Bollard. people speeding down there to avoid the lights at new north/bhb/st Jude.

Like · Reply · 3 · 30 April at 22:50

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Michael Cox If they hadn't put so many traffic lights down the main drag, everyone wouldn't be using those roads as short cuts. So sick of council / LT solution to everything is "let's add more traffic lights"

Michelle Ardern There needs to be a pedestrian crossing outside the Avondale Primary School on Great North Road. Its hard for the kids to figure out whether a car is going to politely stop for them, then they just begin to presume the cars will stop and that's when safety is an issue.

Like · Reply · 4 · 30 April at 22:49

Michael Cox So, upgrade this to a full pedestrian crossing? Probably a good idea

Ken Sims I agree totally

Tamsyn Rose YES! I agree

Silvia Spieksma AT (Auckland Transport) is specifically looking at getting feedback on the roundabout St Jude / Great North road situation. All the other comments are valid but AT brains will short circuit if we don't stay on task. You can go on their website and lodge complaints about any situations that need looking at and I would recommend to do so. They must look into each complaint and respond. Last year ACA did contact AT re zebra crossing request in front of Avondale Primary. This is an extract of the response they gave May 2014: National guidelines recommend against installing zebra crossing facilities in such close proximity as this can result in a reduction in driver compliance with them. A review of the crash history for this location showed that there have been no reported pedestrian crashes here in the past five years.

However, we do recognise that this crossing is heavily used by school children at certain times of the day. In this case it is a manned school patrol crossing is likely to be a safer alternative to a pedestrian crossing. This type of operation would help to remove any ambiguity as to who has right of way and minimise the risk to school children crossing the road. We are therefore currently in the design stage of improving existing staggered crossing arrangement to a larger centre refuge island, with improvements to the kerb lines and provision of poles that school patrol signs can be attached to. These are national guidelines. Guidelines meaning they are not set in concrete because each situation needs a different approach. So AT please reconsider. Crashes may not have been reported but I know for a fact that crashes have happened there. Let me know AT if you need proof and I'll put you in touch with a friend of mine who wasn't sure if stopping/not stopping was required and hit a pedestrian (who wasn't sure she had priority or not)who hurt her ankle as a result. (

AT reference: CAS-274549-C4Z4Y8

In reference to the feedback AT gave about crossing outside Avondale Primary School:

1. There has been no clear signage added around the school indicating to traffic that they need to slow down / take care during school hours as you see in other suburbs.
2. The signage saying pedestrians need to give way to traffic is not at eye level for small children.
3. The curbs placed in the middle of the road do not have a raised footpath, people trip over the curb where there is no railing on the west side of the island.
4. During 2014 a car completely smashed thru the middle island railing, it took months for AT to repair, they have not completed the job.

Best Regards

Michelle Ardern
Founding ACA Trustee