

# Happy Valley Drive Intersections Planning Study

## Project Update

The South Australian Government committed to develop potential options for the upgrade of Happy Valley Drive at the intersections with Chandlers Hill Road and with Windebanks Road.

The study was a State Government election commitment. It sought community and stakeholder input to explore and better understand viable options that could improve safety and address delays and queuing during peak periods at two key intersections:

- Happy Valley Drive and Chandlers Hill Road; and
- Happy Valley Drive and Windebanks Road.

### SNAPSHOT OF CONSULTATION ACTIVITIES

#### Consultation period

From 21 November to 9 December 2022



266

webforms, emails and phone submissions



#### 1,951 visits to the project Social Pinpoint Site

- 224 individual comments on interactive map
- 125 surveys completed



2,863 brochures distributed in local catchment area



30

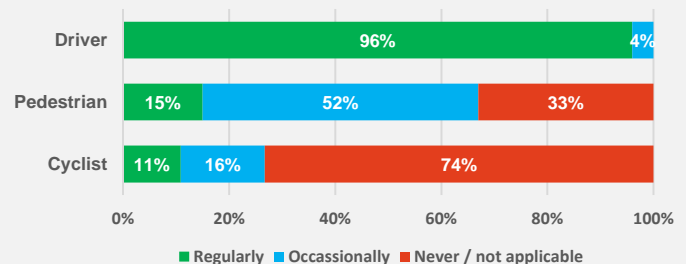
posters in local businesses, civic centres and institutions



Map of the planning study area

### Who provided feedback?

#### Types and frequency of intersection users



## Engagement Process

The Department for Infrastructure and Transport sought feedback from the community in late 2022.

We would like to thank all members of the community and stakeholders who took the time to provide their valuable feedback.

## What we heard during consultation

### We frequently heard that there is an opportunity to improve safety at these locations.

The key recommendation made, to reduce significant existing queues and delays and improve safety, was to upgrade Happy Valley Drive and Chandlers Hill Road to a dual lane roundabout (and/or slip lanes), with pedestrian refuges on all approaches to the roundabout.

Improving the existing right turn from Windebanks Road to Happy Valley Drive was also considered a priority. During peak periods, drivers are only able to turn right when other drivers 'let them'.

Queues and delays at the junction of Happy Valley Road and Windebanks Road were considered to be caused by the queue extending from the Chandlers Hill Road roundabout. However, it was also noted that this congestion often provides the breaks in traffic needed for some turns to occur at this junction during peak periods.

Key recommendations made by stakeholders to improve the Windebanks Road junction included upgrading the Chandlers Hill Road roundabout, increasing the left turn slip lane from Windebanks Road to Happy Valley Drive and improving line marking.

While traffic signals were suggested by some, roundabouts were clearly the preferred solution in the two study locations, particularly at the intersection of Happy Valley Drive and Chandlers Hill Road.

A shared use path on the western (reservoir) side of Happy Valley Drive was considered by many in the planning study area to be a good option to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety.

Other pedestrian and cyclist improvements were also recommended to improve safety such as pedestrian refuges and safer crossing points located away from the intersections.

Local amenity improvements throughout the area would also be highly regarded by road users.

### Most important issues at Happy Valley Drive and Chandlers Hill Road roundabout

74% of survey respondents cited **queues and delays** as their main issue with queues worst around school drop-off and pick-up times.

*"Only really busy twice a day, school pick up/drop off. School holidays are quiet."*

**Pedestrian and motorist safety** were the second most cited issues (54% each), closely followed by **cyclist safety** (46%).

**Access and connectivity** were important to 25% of respondents.

The highest proportion of respondents would like to see a **dual lane roundabout** in this location.

*"Self-regulating dual lane round-about would be a minimum requirement to cater for heavy peak hour traffic that turns all access roads into a car park. Fixing the intersection is critical for Happy Valley emergency vehicle access 24 hours per day."*

While a dual lane roundabout was clearly the preferred solution, some suggested **traffic signals** be considered.

### Most important issues at Happy Valley Drive and Windebanks Road

The **right turn from Windebanks Road to Happy Valley Drive** was the main issue cited at this junction, with 73% of respondents indicating they have difficulty with this turn.

*"If other drivers didn't give way, you wouldn't be able to turn at this intersection."*

**Queues and delays** were the second most commonly cited issue by respondents (63%).

It was also highlighted that **other streets are affected** by increased traffic due to safety concerns in crossing between Happy Valley Drive and Windebanks Road.

*"I notice a lot of traffic going down through Southbound Avenue and turning onto Taylors Road. Not great for local street."*

Many suggestions were also made to improve **safety for pedestrians and cyclists**.

*"Pedestrian islands away from both intersections needed to facilitate safe crossing between shared path and reservoir."*

## For more information

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