



# Grange Road Level Crossing

## Safety and Access Survey – What We Heard Report

### We're planning to improve safety and access for everyone who travels through the Grange Road level crossing

As part of the South Australian Government's commitment to road and rail safety, the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (the Department) is working to improve safety, access and traffic flows at the Grange Road, Hawthorn level crossing.

The Department is investigating options including installing traffic signals to improve safety and access in the area and recently held information sessions to listen to community concerns.

Between 2019 and 2023 there were 49 incidents reported to the Department involving vehicles (including buses) queuing across the level crossing, entering the level crossing, or colliding with a boom gate, when a train is approaching.



Safer access through the Grange Rd Level Crossing



Improved safety for all road users



Government  
of South Australia  
Department for Infrastructure  
and Transport

**SA IS  
BUILDING**  
➔

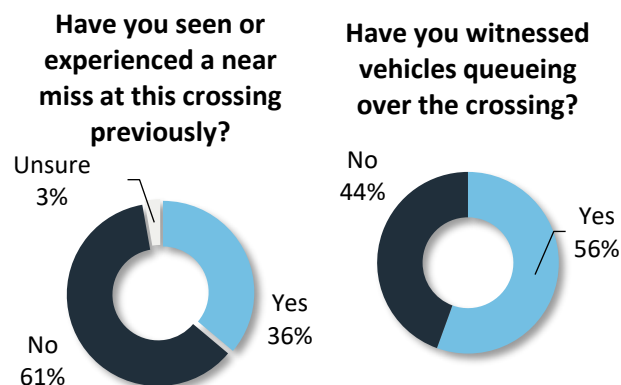
## How we engaged



During the consultation period, we emailed and sent letters to over 791 local residents, key stakeholders and road users seeking feedback about safety and access in the area. We also held community drop-in sessions on Saturday 13 July 2024 and Thursday 18 July 2024 and reached over 5,900 people on social media.

Nearly three quarters of survey respondents were local residents and 58% use the crossing daily.

## What we heard

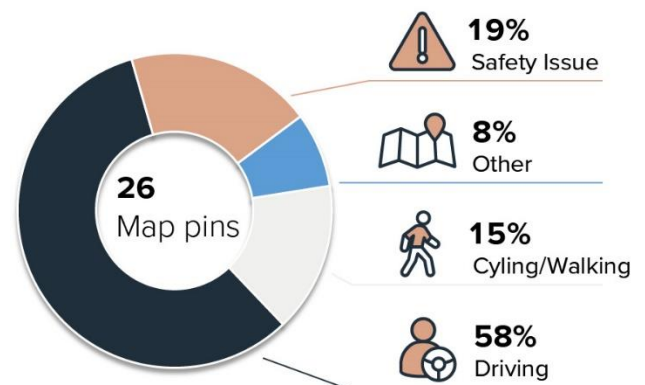


Sight lines and congestion were the two biggest issues raised. Over half of all respondents indicated they have seen vehicles queueing over the crossing during busy times on Grange Road. Comments noted that a lack of visibility on approach to the crossing makes it hard to see and some drivers enter the crossing unaware of the queue on the other side and get caught in the middle of the crossing.

Key themes raised throughout the consultation included:

- Drivers failing to stop at the crossing stop sign.
- Restricted sightlines on approach to the crossing.
- Safety issues with vehicles turning in and out of adjacent side streets.
- Safety and visibility of pedestrians crossing Grange Road.
- Safe access for cyclists.
- Congestion on Grange Road and the configuration of the intersection of Belair Road/Grange Road.

We also asked people to pin comments on an interactive map to provide feedback about known issues in the local area. Driving issues were the top pinned comment with 58% of responses related to safety or access whilst driving.

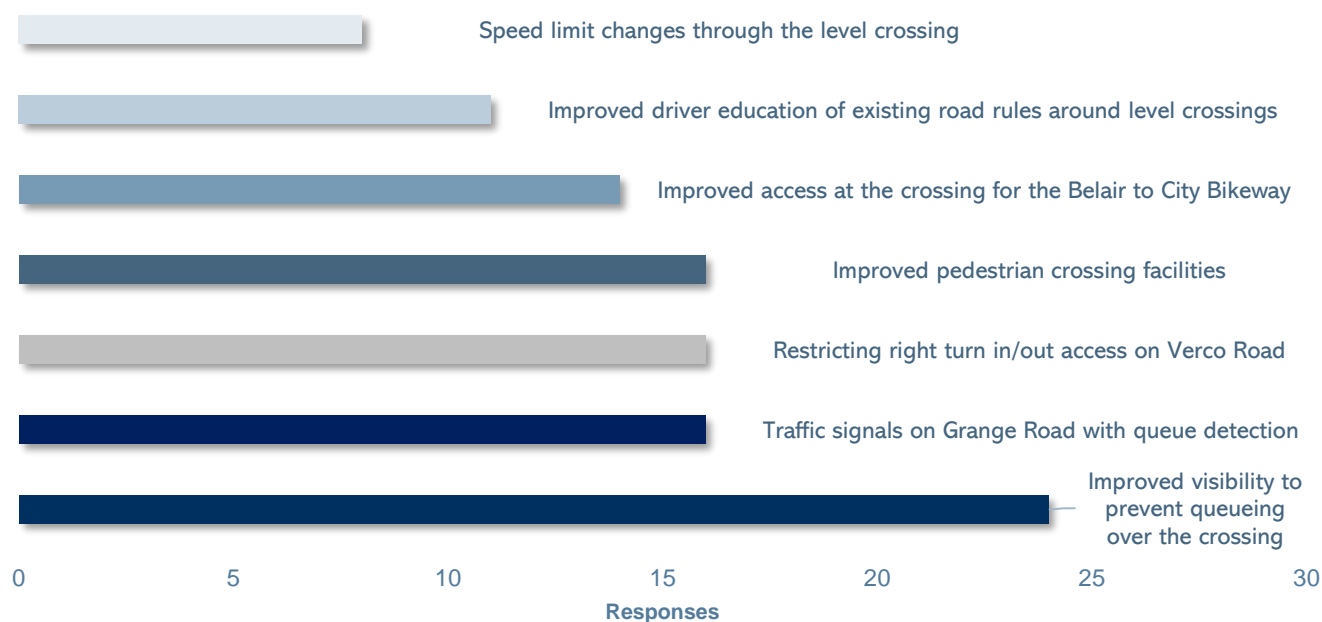


Drivers not stopping at the crossing stop sign was an issue frequently raised. Similar nearby crossings, such as on Wattlebury Road, do not have stop signs making it inconsistent with the conditions at the Grange Road crossing.

Local network issues were raised including congestion at the Belair Road/Grange Road intersection. Suggestions were also made to improve coordination of the traffic signals, allowing cars turning right onto Belair Road to clear out the queue on Grange Road faster. The proximity of the crossing to local side streets Verco Avenue and Abbottshall Road, the narrow width of Grange Road and the elevation of the rail line were all noted as contributing to safety issues at the crossing.

We asked people to share their thoughts on what upgrades would most improve safety at the crossing; 'improved visibility to prevent queueing' was the highest response. Installing traffic signals, restricting right turn in and out access to Verco Avenue and improved pedestrian crossing facilities all ranked equal second in terms of responses.

**Q10. Select any or all of the following if you think they would provide improved safety outcomes for the Grange Road Level Crossing**



The proposed safety treatments in the concept design were well supported in feedback. There were some concerns that traffic signals at the crossing may exacerbate congestion whilst some thought that the current stop signs cause congestion as traffic stops to a standstill at the crossing. It was generally acknowledged that traffic signals would improve safety and traffic flow at the crossing. It was also noted that reducing speed limits on approach to the crossing may help to improve driver behaviour and adherence to signage and road rules when entering a rail crossing.

The proposal to link new signals at the rail crossing to synchronise with the traffic signals at the Belair Road/Grange Road intersection, allowing the queue at the crossing to be cleared, was well received in feedback.

The proposed right turn ban in and out of Verco Avenue was overall supported however there were some concerns about local access and disrupting the existing cycling route to the city.

Several comments also highlighted the importance to people that ride in the area to be able to travel from Verco Avenue, through the crossing on Grange Road and onto Abbotshall Road in both directions along the Belair-City Bikeway.

## Other feedback

- Safety concerns for pedestrians and cyclists crossing Grange Road between the crossing and the Belair Road/Grange Road intersection to access Mitcham station and other destinations.
- Desire to improve the configuration of the dogleg intersection of Belair Rd, Grange Road and Newark Road.
- Support to grade separate the crossing in the long term.

## What's Next

We are reviewing feedback from the community and key stakeholders to help inform our planning and to identify the most suitable opportunities to improve safety and access at the crossing.

## More information

- **Visit** [www.dit.sa.gov.au/grlc](http://www.dit.sa.gov.au/grlc)
- **Email** [DIT.Engagement@sa.gov.au](mailto:DIT.Engagement@sa.gov.au)
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