

KaFRA Responses to FAQ – August 2020

Thank you for sending through a list of frequently asked questions from your members which I have addressed in no particular order below.

I look forward to working closely with you and your members on all council matters to achieve better outcomes for your community.



Peter Cox Your Division 3 Councillor

Alternative access to Kawana Forest estate via Meridan Sports Fields

The planning controls which apply to Kawana Forest require that there is to be no access to Meridan Way from Kawana Forest other than for pedestrians and cyclists. This means that there cannot be any roads opened which would allow vehicles (except emergency services) to access Kawana Forest via Meridan Way (or vice versa).

The gate which is at the entry of the Meridan Sports Fields Complex is a way of ensuring that council complies with the planning controls which apply to Kawana Forest.

A key reason why there cannot be a vehicular link between Kawana Forest and Meridian Way is that the local streets of Kawana Forest have not been designed to cater for the increased volume of traffic. The streets of Kawana Forest could be used as a 'rat-run' route which could have negative impacts on residential amenity as well as the road network.

The Kawana Forest area is subject to a unique master planning process, so changing the planning controls applying to the area is not entirely straightforward. A decision to amend the planning controls, which includes amending the planning scheme, can only be decided by the Council. Such a decision would have to consider all the potential implications, such as impacts on the road network and residential amenity.

Meridan Playing fields/Hooning – following on from your FB post 27 July – has a date been set yet for the commencement of work?

There are a few options currently being scoped and investigated. We hope to understand more about these in the coming weeks and keep you posted.

Based on the latest response regarding Mosquitos, do you plan to continue investigating this issue in your division and look to pursue funding

I will be actively perusing a council workshop to discuss increasing the areas of our mosquito control treatments.

Please note summary report attached and I have requested Vector and Pest Plant Control to continue to look into seasonal mosquito issues for the residents of Kawana Forest.

Confirm that the Greenway link project - has been closed off not to proceed

This project is no longer being considered.

Mass Transit Project – impact the Kawana Forest and surrounding areas

The Sunshine Coast Mass Transit project is part of Council's planning for the future of the Sunshine Coast. The Sunshine Coast is expected to experience considerable population growth in the coming decades and it is essential to carefully consider future transport options. Our Integrated Transport Strategy highlighted that over 91% of all daily trips occur within the Sunshine Coast Council area and only around 7% head south towards Moreton Bay and Brisbane.

The Camcos proposal is seen as a regional connector and would complement any local mass transit system.

The light rail, is a long-term project that requires years of planning, **and funding is primarily a Queensland Government responsibility, often in tandem with the Commonwealth.** As a result, it is not possible to forecast when such a system might be delivered. Nevertheless, preservation of a corridor is a priority, to ensure project commencement as soon as possible after funds have been secured.

Further, in relation to the Mass Transit system (light rail) ever getting close to Kawana Forest, as you mention the lack of population base would never see it extended there. I would suggest that the Camcos from Beerwah to the SCUH, which could connect into a potential light rail system would seem far more logical.

PwC proposed three options for stage one of the mass transit solution should be taken forward to full analysis of benefits and costs in the final preliminary business case:

- An upgrade of bus lanes on the sides of the major roads with new specially branded buses to provide a 'Quality Bus Corridor'.
- A bus rapid transit system much like light rail but with electric buses up to 25 metres long.
- A light rail system with 45 metres long trams running in their own right of way mostly in the centre of the major roads.

Refer to attachments below from the Strategic Business Case for more details on this. The location of nodes will not be definitely confirmed until State Government undertake consultation in 2021.



Please watch the overview video - <u>https://youtu.be/SzgAs6z09Yg</u> and click <u>here</u> to subscribe for regular updates on this project.



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