



Item 7.1 Petitions – Trial of safety improvements at Bridge/Pickles/Glover intersection

Two petitions and one Joint Letter have been received in relation to the trial of safety improvements at Bridge/Pickles/Glover intersection. One petition and one Joint letter is objecting to the trial and one petition is supporting the trial.

Petition 1: Objecting to the trial of safety improvements at Bridge/Pickles/Glover Intersection

A Petition containing 158 signatures via change.org.

The Petition states the following:-

We have received notice that the City of Port Phillip intend to close the median on Pickles Street at the intersection with Bridge Street and Glover Street for a 12 month trial period from August 2021. This will have a significant impact on residents in Bridge Street and surrounds being able to access their residences when travelling Southbound on Pickles Street (ie. from the City, north, east). It will also push traffic to other intersections north and south of this one which simply moves the problem but does not solve it.

We believe traffic concerns around this intersection can be relieved by keeping Pickles Street open but removing the ability to turn right onto Pickles Street from Bridge Street and Glover Street. Residents could turn right at Liardet Street instead which has traffic lights enabling a safer turn across Pickles.

Please help us to demonstrate to the council that the closure of Pickles Street is not a proportionate response to the number of traffic accidents at this intersection and given the traffic accidents arise from traffic turning across both dual lanes rather than just one of the dual lanes, it makes more sense to prevent right hand turns at Bridge Street and Glover than it does to close Pickles Street completely.

Petition 2: Supporting the trial of safety improvements at Bridge/Pickles/Glover Intersection

A Petition containing 63 signatures was received from local residents.

The Petition states the following: -

We the owners/occupiers/both of the properties identified below (and shown on the City of Port Phillip (Council) map at the end of this document) in Bridge Street, Port Melbourne note the proposal referred to in Council's letter of 30 April 2021 to trial closure of the median strip in Pickles Street at the intersection of Glover and Bridge Streets to improve safety (and which will also have the other results referred to in that letter).

As signified by our signature below we support this trial and Council taking action in relation to this dangerous intersection.



Joint Letter: Objecting to the trial of safety improvements at Bridge/Pickles/Glover Intersection

A Joint Letter containing 45 signatures was received from local residents.

The Joint Letter states the following: -

As a resident of Port Melbourne, I/We strongly disagree with the proposed "Trial Closure" of the intersection of Bridge/ Pickles/ Glover Street.

I/We believe this closure will cause:

- *significant additional traffic along Cruikshank Street;*
- *severely restricted access for residents in Bridge Street and Cruikshank Street;*
- *relocation of a "perceived" dangerous intersection to other potential "hot-spots" in Port Melbourne, including Spring/Pickles Street;*
- *increased traffic flow past the Bubup Womindjeka Family and Children's Centre in Liardet Street, Port Melbourne.*

I/We do NOT SUPPORT the proposed trial closure restricting traffic crossing or making right hand turns at Pickles Street, Port Melbourne.

I/We request that Council considers alternative solutions for, improving safety at the intersection including improvement to the "line of sight" for cars crossing Pickles Street, and better management of the Speed Limit in Pickles Street.

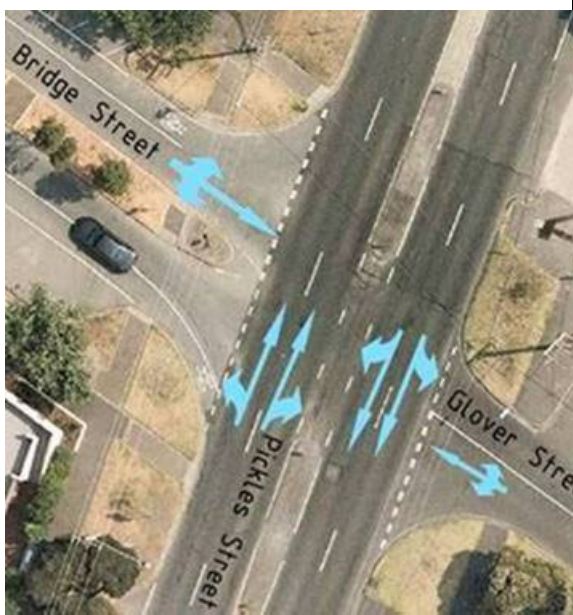
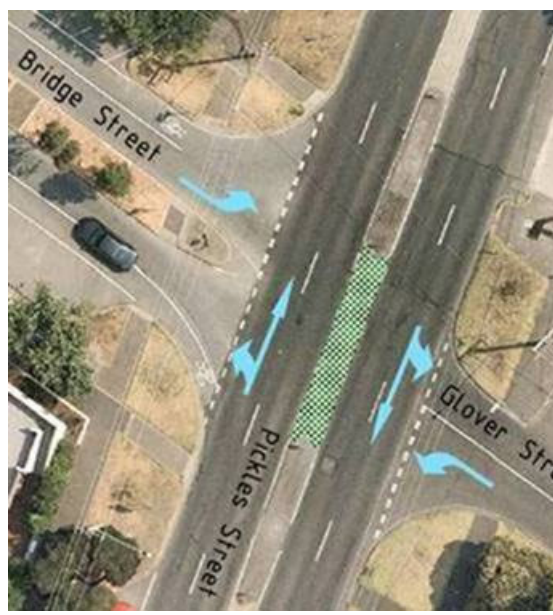
OFFICER COMMENT

Council at a meeting on Wednesday, 6 May 2020 considered a Joint Letter containing 77 signatures from residents of Bridge Street, Port Melbourne and Glover Street, South Melbourne requesting a closure of the median on Pickles Street at the intersection with these two streets. Council resolved:

That Council:

1. *Notes the concerns raised by the signatories of the Joint Letter regarding traffic safety at the Pickles Street, Bridge Street and Glover Street intersection.*
2. *Notes that traffic conditions in these streets and intersection are irregular due to the current COVID-19 State of Emergency, and requests that Council Officers conduct traffic surveys at the intersection when traffic conditions return to regular patterns.*
3. *Notes that Council officers will explore the traffic treatment options identified in this report and consult with the community prior to implementing any traffic changes.*
4. *Notes that any works identified as required to mitigate safety issues at this intersection will be undertaken in accordance with Council's processes, and approved budget and works program.*
5. *Receives a report from Council officers of recommended traffic safety improvements where these improvements would require funding above that included in Council's approved budgets.*
6. *Advises the organiser of the Joint letter of Council's endorsed recommendation and that Council's traffic engineers will inform the organiser of the findings of the traffic surveys and any treatment options identified.*

Following the Council resolution, officers conducted a review and identified the need for a 12-month trial of safety improvements at the intersection of Pickles Street, Bridge Street and Glover Street, South Melbourne. The trial would include the closure of the median along Pickles Street at the intersection of Glover Street and Bridge Street.

Existing Turning Movements	Resulting Turning Movements from Median Closure
	

Council's Transport Safety team (TS) has consulted with the community regarding the proposed 12-month trial. The consultation concluded on Friday, 11 June and officers will consider any late feedback received from the community until Friday, 18 June 2021.

The TS team will provide a summary and review of feedback received during the consultation, investigate the concerns raised by the petitioners and advise of any further modifications to the proposed trial at a Council meeting on 4 August 2021.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Receives and notes the Petition.
2. Notes that consultation on the trial concluded on Friday 11 June 2021 and officers will consider any late feedback received from the community until Friday 18 June 2021.
3. Notes that Council officers are summarising feedback received and will present a report to the Council meeting on Wednesday 4 August 2021.

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4. Advises the organisers of the Petitions of Council's endorsed recommendation and that Council's traffic engineers will list this item at a Council meeting on Wednesday 4 August 2021 for a decision.

TRIM FILE NO: F21/1

ATTACHMENTS Nil