

9.1 - Notice of Motion – Bridle Path (SJ3770)	
Councillor	Councillor Strautins
Disclosure of Officers Interest:	No Officer involved in the preparation of this report has an interest to declare in accordance with the provisions of the <i>Local Government Act 1995</i> .

Notice of Motion

A Notice of Motion was received from Councillor Strautins via email on 28 November 2022.

The notice of motion is “That Council:

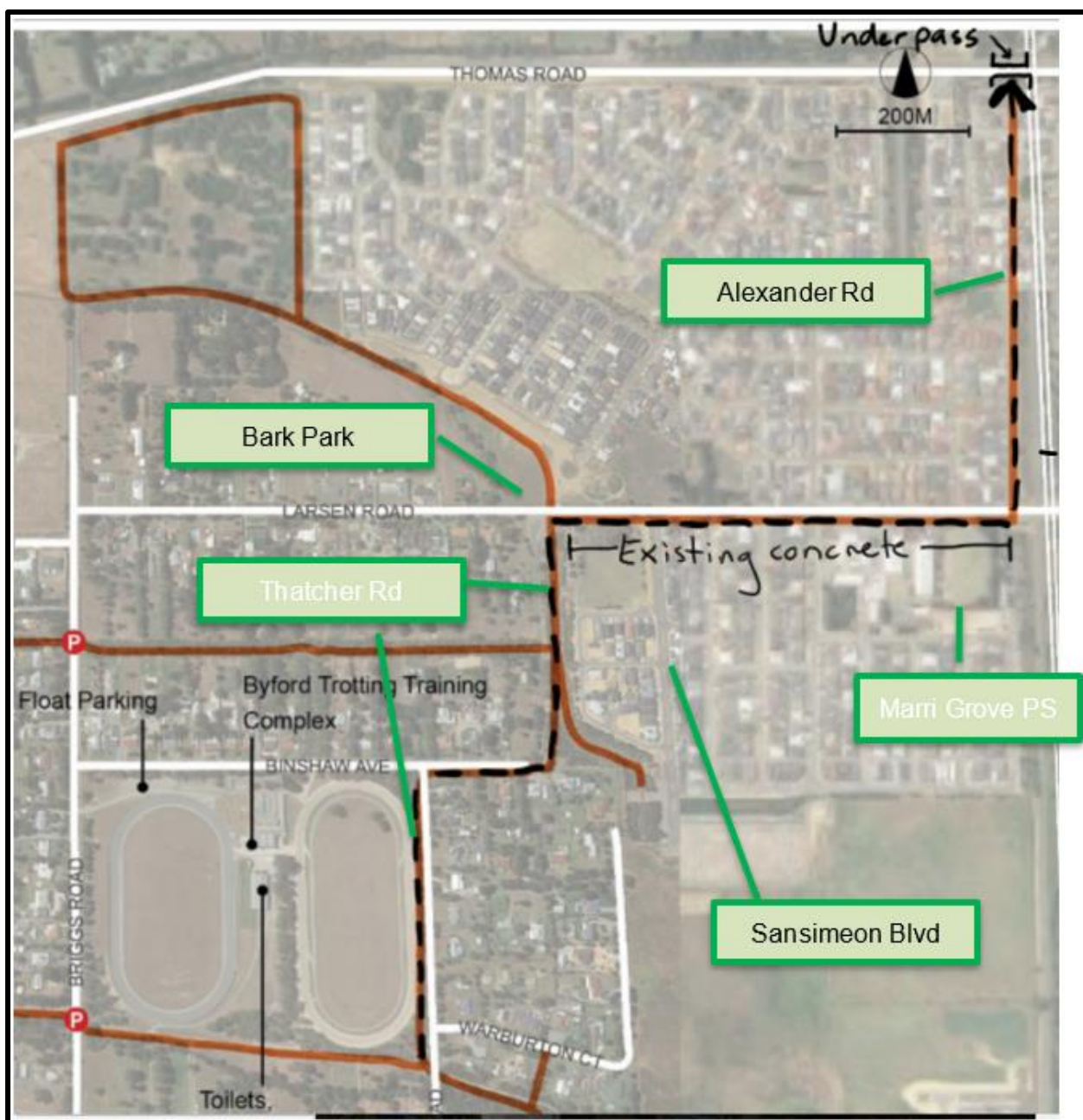
1. REQUESTS the Chief Executive Officer to plan with Metronet a south of Thomas Road bridle path connection between the new under Thomas Road horse tunnel and existing bridle path beside Thatcher Road between Larsen Road and Binshaw Avenue, paying particular attention to improved safety via:
 - a. the use of fines road base instead of concrete;
 - b. the use of fencing to separate from pedestrians and or vehicles;
 - c. Pegasus Road crossing; and
 - d. train triggered warning lights for bridle paths parallel to train line and before tunnel entry.
2. ENSURE that all bridle trails in the Trotting Complex/Byford area are included on all Shire controlled equine maps showing bridle paths.
3. DEVELOP Improved awareness and enforcement of the Trotting Complex zoning policy.”

Officer Comment

Officer comment is provided against each matter following:

1. Planning a south of Thomas Road bridle path connection between the new under Thomas Road horse tunnel and existing bridle path beside Thatcher Road between Larsen Road and Binshaw Avenue

In July 2022 Council adopted its Equine Trails Master Plan which designated equestrian links between the new Thomas Road underpass and the existing bridle trails network of the Byford Trotting Complex. Specific to this notice of motion, is the link between the Byford Trotting Complex (beside Thatcher Road) and the trail running parallel to Alexander Road, and linking through to the Thomas Road bridge equestrian underpass. This is shown in the extract following:

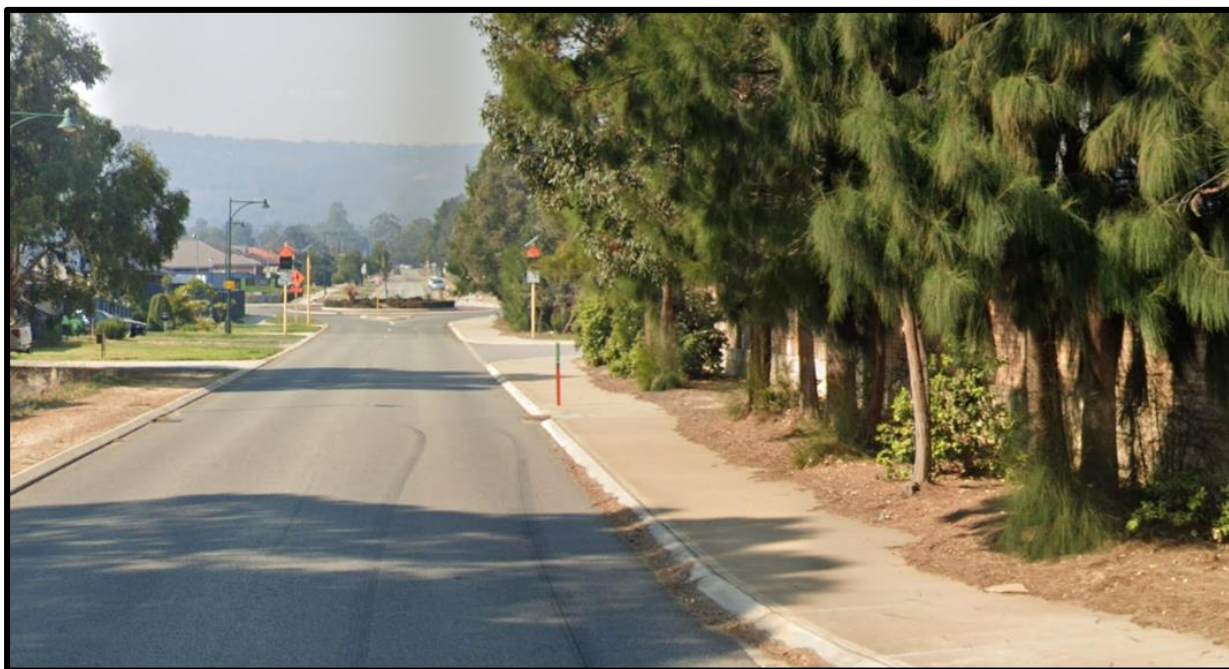


As indicated above, the section of path on the southern side of Larsen Road is a concrete footpath, that directly services seven residential properties (two of which have driveway access from Larsen Road) and also the Marri Grove Primary School. This concrete footpath is also part of the broader footpath network of the Shire, and provides pedestrian linkages for the full length of Larsen Road. There is a section of footpath on the north side of Larsen Road east of the Evans Way, but not west. Also, on the north side are residential properties which directly front onto Larsen Road.

In respect of the current southern verge, there is not sufficient space in which to fit an additional equestrian trail, due to combination of street tree planting and on street parking adjoining the school. This would require horses to utilise the concrete footpath, in this area.

In respect of the northern verge, while there is some additional space, the verge comprises directly fronting lots on to Larsen Road, meaning a trail could not effectively traverse this verge.

A visual depiction of the constraints is shown following:



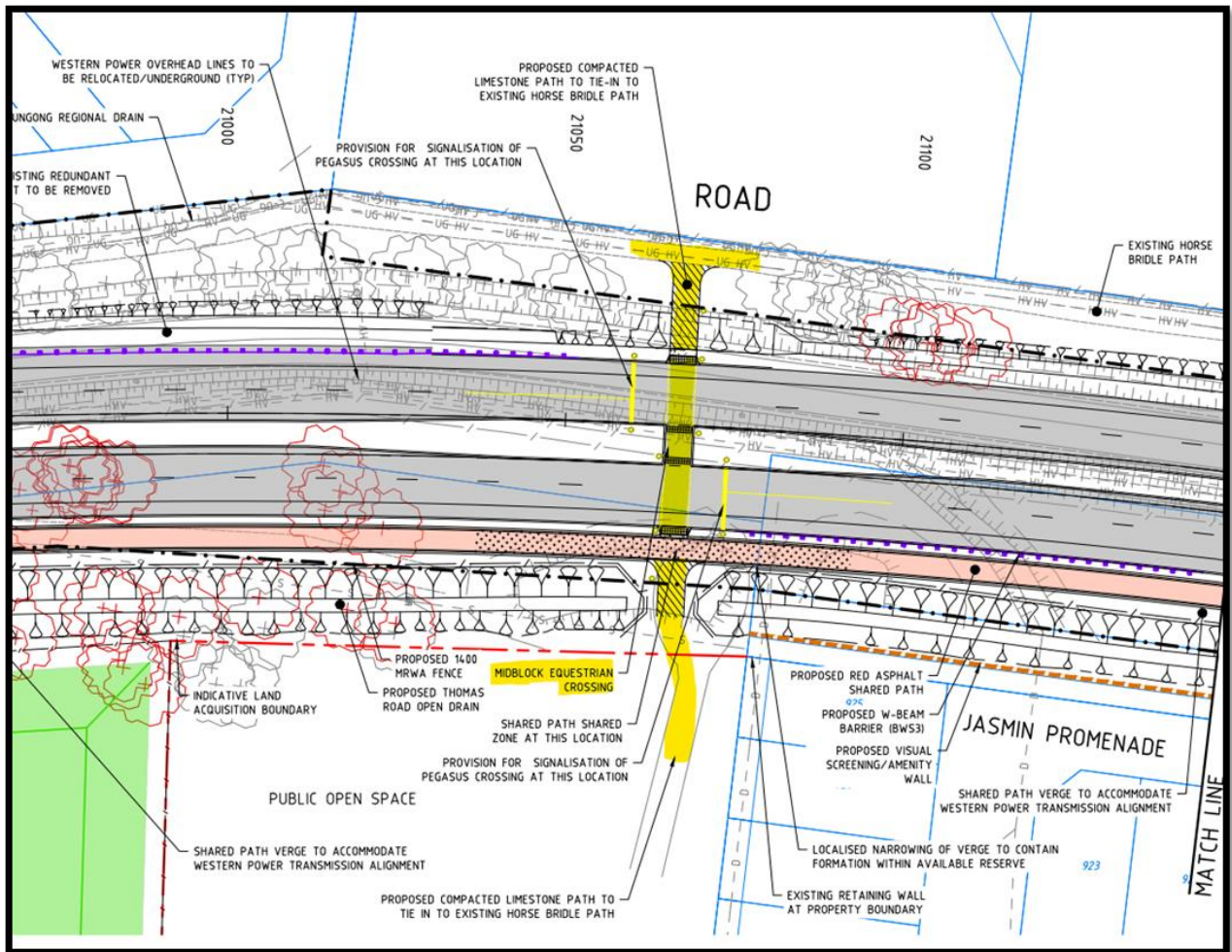
Officers therefore hold the view that Larsen Road would need to have horses utilise the concrete footpath, for that section of the link between the Byford Trotting Complex and the trail running parallel to Alexander Road.

In regard to train triggered warning lights for bridle paths parallel to the train line and before the tunnel/underpass entry, these do not currently exist. Both road and rail noise would be a factor that affects the trails as they depart the Byford Trotting Complex. The adopted Equine Trails Masterplan has not specifically identified train triggered warning lights as a recommendation for provision. This would need to warrant further investigation as to the feasibility for delivery by Metronet.

To assist with this Notice of Motion, Officers note that the Thomas Road duplication project is considering an at grade Pegasus equine crossing, which will create a new link for equine between the Byford Trotting Complex and Darling Downs estate across Thomas Road, as shown in blue following. This will utilise the multiple use corridor and existing reserve for recreation and conservation, that could continue the trail surface treatments of the Byford

Trotting Complex, noting this trail development will require further design development work in accordance with project management frameworks:



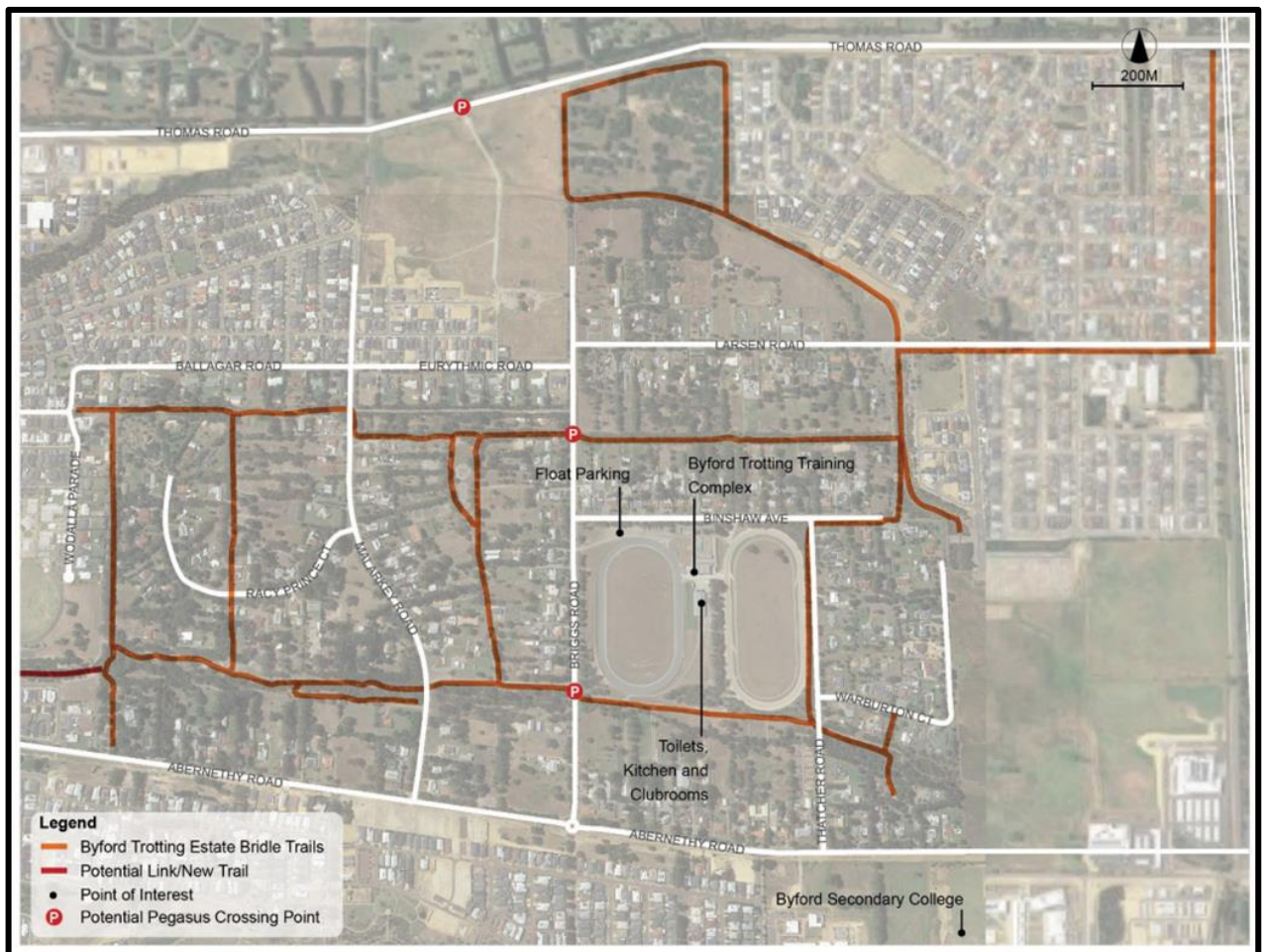


This trail (upon completion) would be able to be a granular type pavement, and also provide equine riders an environment for riding which is further removed from the (future) extension of Sansimeon Boulevard, and the rail corridor.

Despite being a different route to that contemplated by the notice of motion, it would appear a suitable alternative, in the opinion of Officers.

2. ENSURE that all bridle trails in the Trotting Complex/Byford area are included on all Shire controlled equine maps showing bridle paths.

The Council adopted Equine Trails Master Plan shows the current Byford Trotting Complex 'Estate Trails' as follows:



This depicts the most current mapping of equine trails endorsed by Council at the July 2022 Ordinary Council Meeting.

Officers recommend these be added to the bridle trails section of the website, so as to make them more readily available to public awareness and use.

3. DEVELOP Improved awareness and enforcement of the Trotting Complex zoning policy.

In respect of the Shire's Town Planning Scheme, the Byford Trotting Complex is designated as 'Special Rural'. The intent of the 'Special Rural' zone as set out in TPS 2 is as follows:

5.9.1 The purpose and intent of the Special Rural Zone is to depict places within the rural area wherein closer subdivision will be permitted to provide for such uses as hobby farm, horse training and breeding, rural residential retreats and intensive horticulture, and also to make provision for retention of the rural landscape and amenity in a manner consistent with the orderly and proper planning of the selected areas.

The training and agistment of horses are consistent with the stated purpose and intent of the zone and the strategic planning framework of the area. The Byford Trotting Complex tracks are an integral part of the equine industry of Byford and the history of the area, and comprise 200 equine properties to form the complex.

The Shire is able to enforce compliance with the requirements of the Town Planning Scheme, and does so in accordance with Council's Compliance and Enforcement Policy. This is based upon reacting to any complaints received, and therefore provides a clear pathway in which to investigate and (as required) remedy unlawful development.

The current levels of awareness associated with the trotting complex include:

- Signage;
- Recognition within Shire planning documents;
- Recognition within Shire corporate documents;
- Street name themes;
- General presentation of development to public areas within the complex, including roads and trails.

Officers consider there could be additional measures taken to improve awareness and understanding of the unique Byford Trotting Complex. While the planning framework is one aspect of awareness, Officers also consider there to be opportunities associated with public art and social media public awareness campaigns, as a way of helping create awareness when travelling through equine areas such as the Byford Trotting Complex. Officers note the following:

- The filming for the Shire's equine road safety campaign finished at the end of November 2022, currently on track to launch on social media in March 2023. Opportunities to utilise these video resources (in addition to social media avenues) will be explored with the Equine Advisory Group at their next meeting in February 2023, including discussion on how best to reach current residents and road users surrounding the Byford Trotting Complex.
- The Shire's Public Art Strategy identifies under opportunity 11, the prospect of implementing a series of medium size artworks in trail corridors to provide a moment of interest and delight for drivers and riders around equestrian centres and areas.

Voting Requirements: Simple Majority

Councillor Recommendation

That Council:

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3. DEVELOP Improved awareness and enforcement of the Trotting Complex zoning policy.

Alternate Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. NOTES that Larsen Road link does not provide sufficient space to include an equine trail.

2. NOTES the potential for a future equine link that utilises the proposed Pegasus crossing at a mid point between Plaistowe Boulevard and Briggs Road, however this is subject to further confirmation as to the Pegasus crossing and also based upon timing to extend the unbuilt section of Sansimeon Boulevard north of Larsen Road.
3. REQUESTS the Chief Executive Officer to update the bridle trails section of the Shire's website to include information relevant to the Byford Trotting Complex trails.
4. RESOLVES to consider implementation of Opportunity 11 in the Shire's Public Art Strategy for areas surrounding the Byford Trotting Complex as part of the 2022/2023 budget setting process.

OCM293/12/22

COUNCIL RESOLUTION / Councillor Recommendation

Moved Cr Strautins, seconded Cr Dagostino

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 - c. **Pegasus Road crossing; and**
 - d. **train triggered warning lights for bridle paths parallel to train line and before tunnel entry.**
2. **ENSURE that all bridle trails in the Trotting Complex/Byford area are included on all Shire controlled equine maps showing bridle paths.**
3. **DEVELOP Improved awareness and enforcement of the Trotting Complex zoning policy.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 9/0