

**OFFICERS REPORT****6.1 LIGHTING IMPROVEMENTS - SCOTCHMANS CREEK TRAIL PEDESTRIAN TUNNEL**

Submitting Councillor: Dr Josh Fergeus

**MOTION**

*That Council:*

- 1. Notes feedback from residents relating to the lighting of the pedestrian tunnel under the Monash Freeway which connects the Scotchmans Creek Trail between Stanley Avenue and Stephenson's Road, Mount Waverley;*
- 2. Writes to Department of Transport (DoT) to formally request lighting and pedestrian safety improvements to the pathway through the tunnel.*

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

There are no cost implications as a result of this motion.

**IMPACT ON INTERNAL RESOURCES**

Writing to the Department of Transport (DoT) formally requesting the upgrade of lighting and pedestrian improvements in the underpass can be undertaken with existing staff resources.

**COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICIES**

Prioritisation of sustainable transport options, including walking/cycling paths, is a strategic objective under Sustainable City within the Council Plan 2021-2025. The Council Plan also identifies priority of active transport over vehicles as a strategic objective under Enhanced Places.

Advocating to DoT to provide a safe environment for shared path users in this location supports Council strategic objectives.

Monash Integrated Transport Strategy includes a key directions to promote sustainable transport and provide a safe, connected on-street and off-street bicycle network. This motion supports this Strategic action.

**RELEVANCE TO WORK ALREADY UNDERTAKEN BY OFFICERS OR COMMITTEES**

Council officers have contacted DoT (VicRoads at the time of request) in November 2017 with a request to address community concerns regarding upgrading the lighting in the underpass. Council has upgraded the Scotchmans Creek Trail to a 3m wide concrete pavement in this area to improve the path's standard and encourage active transport within the community.

**FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

The pedestrian underpass is solely the responsibility of DoT as it passes under a freeway and is part of the land declared as a freeway as described in the Operational Responsibility for Public Roads Code of Practice under the Road Management Act (RMA) 2004.