June 23, 2009

Road Safety Committee  
Pedestrian Safety in Car Parks  
Parliament of Victoria  
Spring Street  
EAST MELBOURNE Vic 3002

Dear Road Safety Committee

SUBMISSION - PEDESTRIAN SAFETY IN CAR PARKS

In reference to the call for submissions into pedestrian safety in carparks, Warrnambool City Council would like to make the following submission.

Council has conducted a review of our asset databases and records in relation to car parks, and has identified 77 off-street car park areas under the care and management of Warrnambool City Council. In addition Council has 954 on-street car parking bays in the City Centre area.

The following is a list of the type and number of carpark areas under Council’s Care and Management:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of carpark</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shopping centre carparks</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sporting ground and facilities</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community facilities</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public reserves and open space</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Centre &amp; Depot</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Princes Highway Centre Median</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>77</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Major carparks at shopping centres not under Council Management include Safeway Supermarket, Aldi Stores Supermarket, Coles Centro, Gateway Plaza shopping centre, IGA Swinton's, Harvey Norman, Homemaker Centre, and Bunning’s Hardware.

Council officers searched Council’s records and located 5 reports relating to crashes in off street carparks; none of the reports involved pedestrians. They were either vehicles that hit a fixed object like a pole or bollard or struck another vehicle in the car park.

With regard to improved safety measures, the following actions have been taken by Council:-
1. As carparks are redeveloped, the layout and configuration of the carpark is reviewed and compliance with the relevant Australian Standard is accessed and where feasible, pedestrian crossings and lanes have been included in the carpark layout, particularly linking the main entrance of shops to the body of the carpark. This has occurred at the Coles/Younger carpark in Warmambool.

2. Council has provide 4 pram parking bays in the Ozone Carpark and Coles Younger Carpark. These parking areas are oversized and located such that the need to cross traffic lanes/aisles is minimised, to provide a safer environment for parents and small children.

3. Disabled carpark spaces in the City Centre are provided free of charge to reduce the need to attend ticket machines.

The only issue that has been identified by Council is in relation to disability standards for off-street carpark areas. At present there is a draft Australian Standard (DR 04021 Parking Facilities - Off Street Parking for People with Disabilities) that has been in circulation since 2004. I believe that this Standard was intended to become Australian Standard AS2890 part 6 Off-street Parking for People with Disabilities. This has not occurred and provisions for disabled parking in off-street carparks are not clear, being contained in a largely superseded Australian Standard 2890.1 -1993

If you have any further questions in relation to this matter, please contact Rohan McKinnon at the Civic Centre, 25 Liebig Street, Warmambool on 03 5559 4857.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

ROHAN MCKINNON
Manager - Capital Works & Projects