

Department of State Growth

STATE ROADS DIVISION

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Mr Scott Hennessy
Secretary
Public Works Committee
House of Assembly
Parliament House
Hobart, Tasmania 7000

Great Eastern Drive Tourism Support – Additional Information

Dear Mr Hennessy

At the Public Works Committee hearing for the above project, held on Wednesday 2 August 2023, the Department of State Growth representatives committed to providing additional information in relation to questions asked by the committee on the matter detailed below:

Question: Please provide crash statistics for the Great Eastern Drive Corridor, and specifically, for those areas identified for the upgrade works that have been presented to the Committee for approval.

Answer: Attachment I details the Great Eastern Drive - Crash History, including a visual crash statistic record for the entire road length, inclusive of an 'accident rate per km' for various lengths, crash locations, crash clusters and importantly an additional map that provides insight into which areas have been previously addressed. Data spreadsheets for the Apsley and Lisdillon Packages are included as tables on the following page of this attachment. These attachments provide detail of all recorded crash statistics over a period that exceeds 10 years.

The following summaries the accidents over the preceding 5 years from 2018 – 2023:

Apsley Package

Total accidents over proceeding 5 years (2018-2023) = 65

No. Fatalities	0
No. Serious	4 (including two motorcycle)
No. First Aid	12
No. Minor	21 (including six motorcycle)
No. Property Damage Only	28

Lisdillon Package

Total accidents over proceeding 5 years (2018-2023) = 34

No. Fatalities	0
No. Serious	6 (including one motorcycle)
No. First Aid	4
No. Minor	11 (including one motorcycle)
No. Property Damage Only	13

Question: Please provide any data the Department has indicating cycling demand, cycling tourism demand and/or number of cyclists on the Great Eastern Drive, both general figures for the corridor and specific data, if any, relating to the areas the subject of the proposed works.

Answer: 'Strava', a very popular activity and cycling monitor App has been able to provide an insight to the popularity of the usage of this route. Information provided does not differentiate racers from cycle tourists or commuters, and it also does not provide information on cyclists that do not use the App. Therefore, the figures summarized below from 2011 onwards are likely to be lower than actual figures:

- the Apsley Package section has recorded 1 051 cyclists travelling northbound, and 1 423 southbound. On average this equates to 4 cyclists a week.
- The Lisdillon Package has 1 182 northbound and 1 986 in the southbound direction. This equates to 6.4 cyclists per week.

For some wider context:

- the recently released 2030 Tasmanian Visitor Economy Strategy states that Tasmania will be a leading destination for climate-conscious travel. Cycling is a sustainable transport option and can directly assist with reducing the emissions footprint of visitors, thereby addressing some of the needs of climate-conscious travel.
- the Australian Cycling Economy 2021 Report notes cycling contributed a total (direct and indirect) of \$256 million to the Tasmanian economy in 2020, however this is not broken down to reflect a specific East Coast value.

The upgrades proposed provide a 1 metre wide sealed shoulder in both directions, and this will improve the separation distance between cyclists and motorists travelling along the road, and therefore improve safety and the overall experience for cyclists.

Question: Please provide an updated page 10 of the Department's submission, correcting the error with respect to the % values listed for escalation in the cost estimate table appearing on that page

Answer: An updated page 10 is included as an attachment Addendum 1 Page 10 of PSCPW Submission for Great Eastern Drive - Additional Packages Component 1.

Yours sincerely



David Mills

ACTING MANAGER PROGRAMMING AND APPROVALS

Attachments:

1. Great Eastern Drive - Crash History
2. Updated Page 10 of PSCPW submission