21st April 2003
Upgrade for McMinn Street intersection

Work will soon begin on traffic management works at the McMinn/Foelsche Street intersection in Darwin city, following a public consultation period.

The Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, Kon Vatskalis, said the intersection was identified as a potential future safety problem in 1998, but action was never taken to address concerns.

"Approximately 6,000 vehicles travel along McMinn Street and past this intersection every day, and the traffic volumes will only increase with time," Mr Vatskalis said.

"Combine that with the road geometry at the intersection - which includes a fairly sharp bend with a crest, and sight distance difficulties for motorists - and you've got the potential for a dangerous situation."

Mr Vatskalis said almost 200 letters were sent out to residents and businesses in the vicinity of the intersection asking for comment on a proposal to block right hand turns into Foelsche Street.

The proposal intends to improve safety along the busy stretch of road, while also decreasing traffic congestion and noise in Foelsche Street, which can inconvenience residents.

98% of respondents said they wanted to see some type of traffic control in the area, with most favouring the proposal to prevent right hand turns.

Detailed design work on the project will commence in coming months, with residents and businesses to be advised when roadworks will begin.

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