

# TRAFFIC CONTROL FOR TUMBULGUM AND SURROUNDS

## ISSUES

### Within the Village

Many people use Riverside Drive via the Southern village entrance off Tweed Valley Way as an alternate route to Terranora and Dulguigan Rd, rather than using the Northern Intersection off the Tweed Valley Way. This creates through traffic that is not interested in stopping in the village. This leads to a tendency for this traffic to “hurry” through the village.

Improvement of RS drive at southern end will encourage more through traffic

Many visitors do not seem to be aware that the speed limit along Riverside Drive is 40kph.

Speed limit needs to be consistent across village – to prevent bypass of traffic within the village, and confusion re traffic speeds in different areas of the village:

- Currently 40kph on riverside drive vs 50 in rest of village
- Should be consistent across the whole village – eg, 40 kph

### Around the Village and Tweed Valley Way

Concerns re frequency of collisions at Northern End exit to Tweed Valley way

Exiting Village onto Tweed Valley Way

- It is hard to accelerate to 100kph from standing start when a slot is available turning onto Tweed Valley Way during heavy traffic periods – from either exit from the village.
- This is exacerbated in bad weather – drivers need to limit acceleration to prevent fishtailing, as there is often residual oil on the road that makes it quite slippery when wet. This creates more risk from approaching traffic.

Volume of traffic entering/leaving TVW is greater than simple aggregation of residences – as many vehicles from Terranora, Dulguigan, etc, use this route, including “heavy” traffic from the quarry - where vehicles cannot increase speed rapidly when entering TVW. Hence the assessment of the intersection(s) from Riverside Drive on to Tweed Valley Way should be assessed as a “MAJOR” intersection and traffic should be better controlled to reflect this assessment.

Farmers market on corner – understand no new market permits are being issued due to traffic concerns re speed differentials of traffic slowing to visit market stalls vs other through traffic. The short lane that has been provided to allow traffic to speed up before merging onto Tweed Valley Way when heading North is compromised, as cars need to determine

whether traffic heading North along Tweed Valley Way will then pull to the left and slow to enter the Farmers Market area.

Independent of this, there is insufficient length in the merging lane to allow vehicles to come up to speed to merge onto TVW heading North

Dulguigan Road has issues, including:

- riparian loss along the riverbank,
- poor profile of the road surface leading to holding of water in many locations along this road and hence the risk of aquaplaning – potentially into the river,
- insufficient width of paved surface and verge for the size of vehicles and volume of traffic using this road.

The TCA has already corresponded with TSC re Dulguigan Road issues – however, they should be re-iterated as part of any overall approach to addressing traffic concerns.

## SUGGESTIONS FOR SOLUTIONS

### **Need a wholistic solution for traffic control**

#### **Tweed Valley Way (TVW)**

- 80 kph speed limit on TVW

Reducing speed to 80 kph on TVW from North of Tumbulgum through to existing 80 kph speed limit location at Condong would add less than 1 min to overall travelling time.

- Roundabouts at N and S exits to Tumbulgum along TVW
- Median wire barrier on Tweed valley Way

Should address any “head on” fatalities on that section.

However, doesn't help with issues of speed differential for cars entering to or from village at North or South exits from Tweed Valley Way.

May be more dangerous, as slow traffic entering TVW leaves approaching faster cars with nowhere to go.

## **VILLAGE**

Other locations with similar issues of speeding within their precinct have developed successful traffic management strategies – eg, Clunes in the Lismore Shire.

Some of the elements that have been adopted there and in other locations, which could be applied in Tumbulgum include:

- 40 kph wholistic speed limit within the whole area
- Multiple traffic calming devices along Riverside Drive – chicanes, humps, etc
- Permanent, speed triggered warning signs on Riverside Drive
- Fixed speed camera(s) with clear warning signs as a “real” deterrent
- Landscaping to provide visual clues at entrances to village
- Better clarity of “Give Way” from River Side Drive at northern end

Residents have expressed concern re location of traffic calming devices near their properties. Concerns include generation of noise and impact on property values.

Any use and location of calming devices would need to consider impact on nearby residents.

## **WHO TO APPROACH, LOBBY AND INFLUENCE**

COUNCIL OFFICIALS

COUNCILLERS

STATE GOV

FEDERAL GOV

GOVERNOR

NEIGHBOURS IN AND AROUND VILLAGE

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATION IN PLANNING GROUPS