

Good morning Madam Chair and the members of the Sub Committee.

I greet you.

Thank you for allowing me to represent the Kommetjie Residents and Rate Payers Association, Generation School, and an internationally acclaimed road safety NGO, SADD, to submit our request for a Traffic Circle.

The intersection between Kommetjie, Slangkop Road & the schools of Generation & Waldorf expose the users of roads in the Deep South to unnecessary danger. The intersection has seen increasing use & complexity in the last few years as traffic has increased, & the schools of grow. In addition other Housing Estates have been planned to use this intersection, leading it to become even busier, & potentially more dangerous, in the near future. In addition the Ocean View and Masiphumelele Communities have to cross this intersection as children, pedestrians, cyclists, and people with disabilities, i.e. our most vulnerable road users, move between Ocean View and Kommetjie for work or recreational activities. Due to the higher cost of fuel and cost of living, we see, and will see, more and more of these VRU on the road.

A petition was started by the Parent Contact Committee of Generation School and so far more than 550 people have signed, asking for this traffic circle.

A traffic circle costs approximately R6 million to build and we understand the City's financial constraint and the dire need for improved road infrastructure all over the City.

Traffic circles, as you are all aware are much safer than Traffic Lights, are more cost effective, as well as more able to slow down traffic, prevent more crashes, deaths and injuries, than Traffic Lights.

High speeds are one of the main contributors to road deaths.

All too often in SA we see motorists disobeying road rules, ignoring red lights, to devastating effects. We understand the fact that not many deaths have occurred at this intersection, so far, compared to other intersections.

However, there has been a marked increase in crashes over the past year. For example a serious injury to a motorcyclist recently, which will require prolonged hospitalization and rehabilitation, will cost the WC Health Department a great deal of money and the man may well end up needing a Disability Grant in the future. 2 crashes on this past Thursday, etc.

RTMC's determined the Cost of a Crash/ Cost of a life, or Value of a Statistic Life -VoSL, to be between R5 - R7 Million in SA.

Once again we recognize that the full cost per person does not impact wholly on the City's budget.

We ask that the City is proactive and puts in a Traffic Circle before it is forced to be reactive and do so after a serious incident happens, for example a truck crashing into a bus carrying 19 children, killing them all.

As Tax Payers, and citizens of SA we ask for our constitutional right for safe roads to be met.

Thank you very much for listening to our request.