



Dedicated to a better Brisbane

21 March 2024

Mr Peter White
stjames4069@gmail.com

Dear Mr White

Thank you for your emails of 12 February, 5 March 2024 about the footbridge at Boblyne Street Park, which connects St James with Kenmore Plaza. I also refer to representations made on your behalf by Councillor Greg Adermann, Councillor for Pullenvale Ward on 5 March 2024.

I understand you have spoken to Mr Greg Tucker, Program Service Coordinator, Natural Environment, Water and Sustainability, on 9 February 2024 regarding an offer from the Body Corporate for St James Estate to contribute to the rebuild and ongoing maintenance of Boblyne Street Park footbridge.

I understand the footbridge has been providing access for residents of St James to Kenmore Plaza since its construction by the developer in the early 1990s. Further, I note the footbridge lands on St James property, preventing public access.

As I advised in my letter of 22 December 2023, Council provides public assets to benefit all park users, and maintaining an exclusive access arrangement to the footbridge is inconsistent with this. When considering the replacement of any park asset, utilisation is a significant factor. Therefore, replacing the footbridge, which is not available for broad public use, is not considered a good use of public funds. Alternative public access between St James and Kenmore Plaza is provided via the pedestrian/cycle path which follows Boblyne Street to Moggill Road.

I note your comments about the lack of maintenance by Council on the bridge and the impact on the expected lifespan. A review of the structural assessments completed indicates that construction methodology is likely to have contributed to the current condition of the bridge, including the sagging of the central span girders. For further information regarding the footbridge asset, please contact Mr Tucker on 3403 9417.

Council considers the footbridge to be at the end of its useful life and unsafe to remain open, therefore the bridge will remain closed to maintain community safety. The bridge condition also impacts users of the park due to the risk of parts of the structure falling into the park below the bridge. Planning for removal of the bridge is continuing. For further information on these works, please contact Mr Max Willison, Senior Engineer Structures, Program Planning and Integration on 3178 1717.

Thank you for writing to me.

Yours sincerely

Colin Jensen
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Ref: C001515-2024

