Simons Lane Land Acquisition

At yesterday's meeting Council agreed to commence a compulsory land acquisition process for three parcels of land that will enable a new intersection to be constructed where Simons Lane meets the Bass Highway, in Leongatha South.

The acquisition will be conducted in accordance with the *Land Acquisition and Compensation Act*.

The relocation of the intersection is expected to significantly improve road safety, as the current location has poor sight distance and is considered hazardous. In addition to the realignment, the unsealed length of Simons Lane will be upgraded to a sealed road.

The proposed design moves the intersection to a new location approximately 290 metres north east along the Bass Highway from the current location, closer to Leongatha. This will allow Simons Lane to remain as a through-route and will provide dedicated left and right turn lanes from the Bass Highway into Simons Lane, whilst providing improved sight distance for vehicles exiting Simons Lane.

A preliminary design has been prepared and is currently nearing approval stage. The project is partially funded by the Australian Government's *Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program*.

Quote attributable to Mohya Davies, Mayor South Gippsland Shire Council:

"This land acquisition has been many years in the making and will improve safety for all Simons Lane road users. Land acquisition was determined to be the most suitable option after an independent road safety audit - instigated by Council and endorsed by the Department of Transport - identified that the intersection needed to be relocated, but there was insufficient public road space available to deliver the proposed works. Council has consulted with the landowners and will work closely with them during the next stages."

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