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Work to begin on Limestone and Milford Streets

Work will shortly begin on upgrades to the intersection of Limestone and Milford Streets, Member for Ipswich Rachel Nolan said today.

The work to be carried out by the Department of Main Roads will include improving signage at the intersection particularly for vehicles travelling along Milford Street, and installing median traffic islands to slow traffic turning from Milford into Limestone Street.

The work is being undertaken as a result of a meeting Ms Nolan convened on site in response to residents' safety concerns late last year.

At this stage the work will not include changes to the camber on Limestone Street because the Department of Main Roads is undertaking further camber analysis to determine whether that major project is necessary. The camber analysis process involves surveying the existing road, modeling an alternative and developing a business case based on the number of accidents.

Ms Nolan said it was appropriate that Main Roads should exercise diligence and not jump to conclusions regarding the nature of the safety problem at Limestone and Milford Streets.

"Every time there's an accident, people want to blame the road", she said. "But in my observation most of the accidents in this area seem to be caused by speed and carelessness, rather than the nature of the road itself. I drive on that road every day and would be reluctant to see the government spend substantial amounts of taxpayers' money to fix a problem that's not in fact due to the road."

"These initial works will slow traffic coming from Milford Street into the intersection. I am advised that Council have also committed to cutting back foliage which may have been obscuring visibility in that area", said Ms Nolan.

The work is scheduled to take place between 9am and 3pm Monday to Friday from mid April to early May 2008, weather permitting. Local residents will receive an information flyer detailing the work schedule.