## **Media Release**

17 July 2023

## School Zone extended in front of Gladstone Central State School

Gladstone Regional Council has extended the School Zone in front of Gladstone Central State School in response to community feedback.

Gladstone Central State School's School Zone will now extend along Auckland Street between Roseberry Street and the Gladstone Port Access Road overpass.

The 40km/h School Zone speed limit is in effect during school pick-up and drop-off hours (7.30am to 9am and 2.30pm to 4pm), reverting to the urban default of 50km/h outside of these hours, including weekends and school holidays.

Gladstone Region Councillor Glenn Churchill said extending the School Zone was in response to feedback from staff and the P&C at Gladstone Central State School.

"It was highlighted to me that Gladstone Central State School's frontage was much longer than the existing school zone," Councillor Churchill said.

"This was resulting in some students being picked up and dropped off outside of the school zone where the speed limit is 50km/h.

"As a former Queensland Police Officer, I unfortunately know firsthand that every kilometre over the speed limit can be a killer, so to see an extension of the 40km/h speed zone within this section of Auckland Street is a great outcome for students, parents, and pedestrians.

"The safety of our children is paramount, and a larger 40km/h footprint during school drop off and pick up times will provide further safety benefits as opposed to the urban default speed limit of 50km/h."

With school now back for Term 3, now is a great time to model positive road safety behaviour for children.

To lead by example, you should always:

- Park legally
- Avoid dangerous manoeuvres such as U-turns and three-point turns
- Give way to pedestrians, particularly when entering or exiting driveways
- Avoid using the school car park or driveway for pick up and drop off
- Avoid parking in the school bus bay
- Make sure your child uses the safety door (rear kerb-side door) to get in and out of the car.

**ENDS** 

