

Inquest into the death of Anna Damjanovic

Anna Damjanovic died on 20 May 2017 when she was struck by car as she crossed Swann Road in Taringa. The driver of the car saw Ms Damjanovic crossing the road and braked in an attempt to avoid hitting her, but the wet conditions may have caused the car to slide and spin rather than to stop sooner. At some stage during the car's spin, it is likely that Ms Damjanovic was hit by the car and propelled over the chain-link fence on the outside of the bridge. Ms Damjanovic fell 15 metres to the railway below, sustaining fatal injuries.

Brisbane Coroner Christine Clements delivered her findings of inquest on 25 February 2021.

The Queensland Government responds to recommendations directed to government agencies at inquests by informing the community if a recommendation will be implemented or the reason why a recommendation is not supported.

The department named in this response will provide implementation updates until the recommendation is delivered. Further information relating to the implementation of recommendations can be obtained from the responsible minister named in the response.

Recommendation 1

Brisbane City Council and Queensland Rail review the area of Swann Road at the bridge and at the intersections of York and Cunningham Street in order to determine whether any improvements to the safety of the intersection could be made, including the height of the chain-link fencing, the lighting, and the safety of the road surface in wet conditions.

Response and action: implemented.

Responsible agency: Queensland Rail, supported by the Brisbane City Council.

On 1 December 2021 the Minister for Transport and Main Roads responded:

Queensland Rail will upgrade the existing fencing with protective mechanisms, such as electrification screening to current design standards, spanning the full length of the bridge. Queensland Rail will also collaborate with Brisbane City Council on any other changes (including review of the lighting and road surface in wet conditions) required at this location.

Installation is expected to be completed by 30 June 2022.

On 24 May 2022 the Minister for Transport and Main Roads responded:

On the 19-20 March 2022 Queensland Rail undertook works on the Swann Road Bridge and further closures and works were undertaken on the 7 and 8 May 2022. The works were completed during the 21-22 May track closure.

The community engagement team from Queensland Rail reached out to Ms Damjanovic's family and is in discussions in relation to the long-term plans for the memorial on the bridge.

On 16 November 2022 the Minister for Transport and Main Roads responded:

Queensland Rail completed works on the Swann Road Bridge in May 2022.