

# MINUTES

## ACTIVE TRANSPORT REFERENCE GROUP

### 5PM ON TUESDAY 6 JUNE 2017



PRESENT	
Councillor Ann Martin	Wollongong City Council
Councillor Jill Merrin	Wollongong City Council
Councillor George Takacs	Wollongong City Council
Peter Nunn	Wollongong City Council
Werner Steyer	Illawarra Bicycle User Group
Phil Latz	Bicycle Community Representative
Lachlan Anderson	Pedestrian Community Representative

IN ATTENDANCE	
Walter Galvan	Wollongong City Council
Deb Nicholls	Wollongong City Council

1. APOLOGIES – Apologies were received and accepted on behalf of Mike Dowd. Councillor Bede Crasnich did not attend the meeting
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST – Nil
3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 4 APRIL 2017.

**Recommendation:** The minutes of the meeting held on 4 APRIL 2017 be confirmed as a true and accurate record

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES – Nil
5. GENERAL BUSINESS

#### ITEM 1 – DRAFT CITY OF WOLLONGONG PEDESTRIAN PLAN 2017-21

The draft plan had been sent to members in late May with a request that feedback be brought to the June meeting.

The vision statement included in the draft plan was read and the group expressed support for the statement as written.

The following feedback was provided from the group on other document aspects including local issues that should be addressed:

- Document summary should be provided up front
- Link should be shown to related plans including the bike plan and the disability inclusion action plan
- Comparison figures to other cities should be shown, including like-for-like comparisons and aspirational targets.
- Asset information should also show the length of roadways in addition to pathways
- Mobility scooter usage is increasing and shared paths are being used
- Consider use of staggered refuge crossings in conjunction with marked zebra crossings where there is concern that pedestrian volumes will reduce traffic capacity

- Cowper Street, Warrawong refuge crossing facility mentioned in community feedback should be removed as pedestrians should have priority in town centre
- Marked foot crossings are preferable to blisters
- Note needed in crossing section about removal of ambiguity in pedestrian crossings
- Explanatory notes of pedestrian crash types should be added
- Other cities show that the greater the number of zebra crossings the fewer pedestrian injuries and fatalities occur
- Lighting in George Street, Wollongong car park is lacking
- Case for change should be given up front in document. Note that there are declining walking rates in the city and action is needed to reverse the trend.
- In the challenges section add rubbish bins on footpaths affect pedestrian safety and amenity
- Lowering speed is a proven way to lower fatalities, suggest use of 30km/hr speed limit
- Motorist behaviour impacting pedestrian rights e.g. vehicles parking over nature strips
- Nature strips are often planted out forcing pedestrians onto road
- Include the need for a pedestrian bridge over rail line at Gipps Street

It was noted that following consideration of the above feedback and revision of the document accordingly, that the draft plan would be reported to Council on 31 July 2017 with a recommendation that the document be put on public exhibition.

#### ITEM 2 – GIPPS ROAD PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

George Takacs discussed the need for a pedestrian and bicycle bridge along the Gipps Street alignment over the Wollongong railway line. It was noted that such a facility would improve pedestrian and bicycle access between Smiths Hill and Beaton Park.

Walter Galvan tabled an analysis of various walking and cycling routes between local origins and destinations both with and without a pedestrian and bicycle bridge at Gipps Street over the railway line. The travel time saved by providing the new bridge was between 2.2 and 4.1 minutes for bicycles and for journeys up to 15 minutes for pedestrians a time saving of approximately 3 minutes was identified.

Werner Steyer suggested that the justification for the new bridge should focus on the enhanced experience of the new route versus existing alternative routes further south.

#### ITEMS 3 – WOLLONGONG CITY CENTRE ACCESS AND MOVMENT STRATEGY SCOPE

Walter Galvan gave a presentation on the scope of the upcoming review of the Wollongong City Centre Access and Movement Strategy. Scope aspects covered in the presentation included the need for the review, the geographic scope, areas of focus for the different modes of travel and parking, elements to be carried forward from the previous strategy and aspects of the public road network in Wollongong City Centre that are not to be altered by the strategy. The following suggestions by group members for consideration in refinement of the project scope:

- Conversion of roads to No Through roads for motor vehicles is a good way to increase permeability of the network for walking and cycling relative to motor vehicles.
- Consider placement of bicycle parking and shower facilities.
- Park and Ride should receive focus in strategy.

OTHER BUSINESS - Nil

---

Minutes to be confirmed at the next meeting to be held at 5pm on **Tuesday 1 August 2017**.

## ACTION SUMMARY

No.	Meeting Date	Action	Officer	Status
13	21.11.13	Traffic Unit to investigate development related mechanisms for the next DCP review where private developments make parking available to the general public outside trading hours	WG	To proceed as part on next DCP review
44	4.10.16	Active Transport Reference Group to be included in community engagement for all transport infrastructure projects	ML	Ongoing