

**WALKING, CYCLING & MOBILITY
REFERENCE GROUP
MINUTES OF MEETING TUESDAY, 9 FEBRUARY 2021
REMOTE LOCATION: SKYPE VIDEO CALL, 5:00 PM**



Reference Group Members in attendance:

- Cr David Brown Chair, Councillor Delegate
- Cr Mithra Cox Councillor Delegate
- Trish McClure WCC Manager Infrastructure Strategy & Planning
- Fiona Myer Access Needs of People with a Disability Representative
- Jon Lindley Bicycle Users Representative
- Edward Birt Pedestrians Representative
- Chye Toole-Anstey Pedestrians Representative
- Beth Robrahn Families with Children Representative
- Brian Gardner Access Needs of People with a Disability Representative
- Trish McBride Access Needs for Seniors Representative
- Tracy Venaglia WCC Coordinator Community Development & Social Planner

Wollongong City Council (WCC) Staff in attendance:

- Walter Galvan Traffic & Transport Unit Leader (Acting)
- Daniel Dunstan Senior Traffic Engineer
- Rob Gaudiosi Traffic Engineer
- Daniela Di Lullo PA Infrastructure Strategy & Planning (Acting) – Minutes

1 WELCOME & OPENING OF MEETING

Meeting Opened 5:10 pm

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

The Chair welcomed all and acknowledged the traditional owners of the land.

1.2 Apologies

David Wilson, Traffic & Transport Unit Leader (annual leave)

1.3 Disclosures of Interest

No conflicts of interest declared.

1.4 Confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting held 8 December 2020

The minutes of the previous meeting were moved as a true and accurate record.

Cr Brown noted the announcement that Wollongong has been designated a bike city. The strategies and infrastructure are in place, continue working on developing the Cycling Strategy 2030.

2 ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES – 8 DECEMBER 2020

- COVID Recovery/High Streets Grants – Rob advised that Council applied for a High Street grant for the Helensburgh Town Centre Revitalisation.

3 CYCLING STRATEGY (STANDING ITEM)

Presentation by Daniel Dunstan, Senior Traffic Engineer (WCC)

- Cr Cox asked if data is available on people using the shared paths. Daniel advised Strava data has shown an increase in usage since COVID19 and the National Cycling Participation Survey is conducted in March every year.
- Chye asked if there is a more detailed timeframe of when the Share the Path campaign will come out? **Action: Daniel Dunstan**

- Chye mentioned the Towradgi Surf Club needs a bike rack near the café. Daniel advised this location will be reviewed.
- Chye mentioned the new Waratah train carriages do not account for all bike types and to consider this when planning for other options around Wollongong.
- Edward mentioned, in terms of under-represented groups, he would be keen to get a program to support people with a disability to access cycling activities. Something to keep in mind, happy to talk further and partner in some other programs.
- Fiona advised she in the process of investigating modified bikes, reiterated the issue for trains and supported a program such as this.
- Cr Cox mentioned there is a good alternative route to Thirroul Station with the east/west links following the rebuild of McCauleys bridge and asked whether this is a temporary measure.
Action: Walter Galvan to advise
- Beth to follow up offline how buildings are positioned on sites.
- Ed raised automatic signals for cyclists at Masters / Springhill Roads intersection and Chye mentioned Elliots Road, Fairy Meadow. Beth suggested to contact TfNSW asking for a strategic approach across our cycleway network to ensure the signals prioritise walking and cycling. Trish McClure suggested to nominate some specific locations as well.
Action: D Dunstan
- Jon raised the Lord Mayor Minute from the Council meeting of 1 February 2021 to change Cliff Road to one-way traffic and remove cyclists from the Blue Mile, and Chye's e-mail to discuss at this group. Daniel advised main pinch point is the cutting and Council is looking at improved signage, line marking, and options to improve the desirability for road cyclists to use Cliff Road. Trish McClure advised there is a project in the current IDP to investigate improvements in Cliff Road, however, does not include one-way traffic.

4 SAFETY AROUND SCHOOLS (STANDING ITEM)

- Rob Gaudiosi advised that Justin Miles – Senior Traffic Engineer, Melanie Lausz – Road Safety Officer, and himself provided a presentation, similar to what was presented to this group, at the Cr Briefing on 8 February 2021.
- Fiona asked if there has been outreach to P&Cs about this process. Trish McClure advised the appropriate protocol for Council is for the Road Safety Officer to contact school Principals and they will go to their P&C. Fiona asked if correspondence can be copied to P&Cs if possible. Trish advised the process has been agreed to with Department of Education and TfNSW and that the point of contact is the Principal and P&Cs are welcome to request information from the Principal.
- Beth asked if the list of 20 schools could be shared with the Reference Group so that they can talk to their networks and provide input and support to Council? Rob advised this list is still under review. Once finalised the Group can discuss the next step.
- Chye mentioned at a previous meeting there was discussion about footpaths and the shift at Council to have town centres to minimise disjointed planning. Trish McClure mentioned that Council follows an integrated transport planning model, however, Council receives funding from other sources and it needs to be spent in particular areas.

- Fiona mentioned there is a lack of understanding in the community with regard to revenue streams and requirements and suggested that education be filtered back via members of this Group about how they can advocate with Council/state so that people's expectations are more realistic.

5 DISABILITY INCLUSION PLAN UPDATE

Presentation by Walter Galvan, Traffic & Transport Unit Leader (acting) (WCC)

- Fiona requested further information on the bus stop audit conducted in August 2019, ie, how many have been completed, which are still outstanding and why. **Action: Council to review previous minutes regarding bus stop upgrades and provide comment to next meeting.**
Walter Galvan

6 INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY PLAN – UPDATE

Presentation by Daniel Dunstan, Senior Traffic Engineer (WCC)

- Beth asked how Council would implement a behaviour change program specific to the safer routes to school project. Trish McClure advised the Road Safety Officer's primary projects are behaviour change.
- Tracy advised the Community Development and Engagement Branch has set up Pods and one relates to cycling. The work of the Pod will deliver community development and engagement activities that align to the Cycling Strategy with a particular focus on those groups underrepresented in cycling. This will be done in consultation with ISP Division. **Action: Tracy to provide a presentation at a future meeting.**
- Beth requested if the behaviour change program and infrastructure delivery for safer routes to school can be tied together. This is part of the role of the Road Safety Officer.

7 POP-UP CYCLEWAYS

Presentation by Walter Galvan, Traffic & Transport Unit Leader (WCC)

- Presentation to be e-mailed to Brian as he was unable to view. **Action: Walter Galvan**
- Beth asked to confirm that the nature of the trial is to test the design in order to make improvements for the eventual permanent inclusion. Walter confirmed if the pilot is a success Council would be looking to make certain components permanent, following rigorous feedback towards the end of the trial.
- Beth raised in the City of Sydney when they first introduced the Bourke Street cycleway there was approximately 800 people who opposed it. The Council went ahead and now it is a beloved cycleway.
- Cr Brown mentioned Smith Street has received the most opposition.
- Chye raised, in relation to the Towradgi cycleway, after crossing Memorial Drive there is broken footpath that runs parallel with Memorial Drive. This would make a good link for other areas if updated to a shared path and act as a link to other locations.
- Beth congratulated Council on the great work. Cr Cox also congratulated Council, especially in the CBD.

8 GENERAL BUSINESS

Waples Road Fatality

- Trish McClure provided an update on the fatality at Waples Road in December 2020.
- Jon thanked Trish for the information and commented that there is a disproportionate responsibility on children when crossing roads. Highlights the importance of what are safe speeds and how are these implemented in the whole LGA when travelling to and from schools. Trish commented it is a shared responsibility of teaching kids, partners, parents, drivers, pedestrians and the need to continue with education for everyone.
- Jon mentioned it was good news that Council is prepared to trial 30km zones if they are approved by TfNSW. Trish advised that networks also provide service to all types of users, and we need to balance all needs at all times.
- Cr Brown asked if the Coroner's report makes specific recommendations. Trish advised it does not.

9 DRAFT 2021 MEETING SCHEDULE (AND 2021 FORWARD PLANNER)

- Tuesday 13 April 2021
- Tuesday 8 June 2021
- Tuesday 10 August 2021
- Tuesday 12 October 2021
- Tuesday 7 December 2021

Meeting closed 7.35pm.