WALKING, CYCLING & MOBILITY REFERENCE GROUP
MINUTES OF MEETING TUESDAY 13 APRIL 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
- Fiona Myer — Access Needs of People with a Disability Representative
- Jon Lindley — Bicycle Users Representative
- Chye Toole-Anstey — Pedestrians Representative
- Beth Robrahn — Families with Children Representative
- Tracy Venaglia — WCC Coordinator Community Development & Social Planner

Wollongong City Council (WCC) Staff in attendance:

- Trish McClure — Manager, Infrastructure Strategy and Planning
- Isabelle Ghetti — WCC Transport and Stormwater Services Manager (Acting)
- Daniel Dunstan — Senior Traffic and Transport Planner/Engineer ISP
- Justin Miles — Senior Traffic and Transport Planner/Engineer ISP
- Robyn Bradley — 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
Edward Birt, Pedestrians Representative (Annual Leave)
Trish McBride, Access Needs for Seniors Representative
Walter Galvan, Senior Traffic and Transport Planner/Engineer
Rob Gaudiosi, Traffic Engineer ISP (Annual Leave)
Andrew Byers, Traffic and Transport Unit Leader (Acting) ISP

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.

2   ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES – 8 DECEMBER 2020

Item 3: Contact has been made with TfNSW – interphase signals. Jon Lindley noted Council has acted on feedback received.

3   CYCLING STRATEGY 2030 (STANDING ITEM)

Presentation by Daniel Dunstan, Senior Traffic Engineer (WCC)

1   Cr Cox raised her concerns over the priority of minor infrastructure over major infrastructure with the example of Point Street provided as a location requiring access, but continued lack of funding.

2   It was noted by staff that projects have varying lead times and costs, and that major infrastructure comes with both major lead time and major cost. *Post note – Daniel Dunstan and Trish McClure met with Cr Cox on this project.*

3   There was some discussion on providing a shared path on Rothery Street.

4   Point Street was noted as providing limited cost benefit when compared to other priorities.

Action: ISP to present on framework for the implementation of strategies (Cycling, Disability and Active Transport) at future meetings.

4   SAFETY AROUND SCHOOLS (STANDING ITEM)

Justin Miles provided an update:

1   <u>Safe Routes to Schools</u> – improved registers have been set up. Justin has met with 6 of 12 schools. Site meetings are planned to discuss solutions.

2   <u>Grant Opportunities</u> - Infrastructure Sub-Program provides a federal stimulus grant for school zones. Projects have been nominated by Council.

3   <u>Draft IDP Subprogram</u> 'Funding priority pedestrian infrastructure' will provide $1-1.5m over 4 years.

No feedback or questions received.

5   DISABILITY INCLUSION PLAN UPDATE

Bus Stop Update (Justin Miles):

Since September 2019 seven compliant bus stop upgrades have been implemented. Another 18 have been programmed for upgrade over the next three years. A tracking spreadsheet has been developed for all bus stops in the LGA. A maintenance checklist has been developed to check other aspects related to DIAP. Tactile projects will be rolled out over a series of bus stops.

Fiona Myer identified a valuable need in the use of flat pads or hard-stand areas at sites without footpaths and offered her assistance and input to the traffic team.

6   INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY PLAN – UPDATE

The recently delivered 4-year draft Infrastructure Delivery Program (IDP) with notable projects was outlined. The IDP is on public exhibition from 22 April until the 20 May.

7   POP-UP CYCLEWAYS

Beth Robrahn and Chye Toole-Anstey requested further briefing on the Pop-up cycleway evaluation criteria, and how deficiencies/choices in the design may influence utilisation.

Action: Present the framework for the evaluation of the pop-up cycleways at future meetings.

Chye asked whether Council was running an education campaign for residents and how driveways/parking would function.

Action: Consider education campaign for residents within the context of the wider communications and media strategy for cycling.

8   GENERAL BUSINESS

1   Jon Lindley noted on the Murranar Road, Towradgi pop up cycleway 50kph pavement symbols and signs still exist. He suggested these be removed as they compete with the design speed of the road.

   Action: Walter Galvan to review the requirement of speed zone signage, in consultation with TfNSW. If warranted for removal, arrange for removal.

2   Fiona Myer noted that she has observed many recent projects having landscaping choices that are not considerate to outcomes of the DIAP. Notable issues were changes in surface texture, introduction of trip hazards, incorrect visual alignment queues etc

Action: Public Domain Technical manual to be considered at future WCAM – presentation by Andy Goldie et al and how this delivers inclusive design when considering architectural and landscaping features.

3   Future meeting considerations:

It was requested that meeting agendas and content be circulated ahead of time. Agenda items can be submitted by any member in the committee, must be submitted 48 hours ahead of time for consideration by the chair.

4   It was requested that content be provided at a time where consultation/collaboration would influence the proposal, rather than provided as information.

Action: Trish McClure to review business paper and future items to ensure items are appropriate (strategy/policy related) and timely to enable collaboration.

Note: This RG is to enable community representatives to contribute to the enhancement of Council Policies and Strategies for Walking, Cycling and Mobility. At times examples assist. Noting projects undergo their own consultation program.

5   Charter/Reference Group management considerations - Beth Robrahn suggested reviewing the charter to ensure the purpose, membership and operation of the Reference Group is effective and to make appropriate changes.

Beth noted that the committee members are all very keen to find ways to more effectively work with Council toward the Group's purpose. She further noted the Council's engagement policy was just on exhibition and that perhaps there were resources within the engagement team to help facilitate creating a more collaborative environment and working relationship between community representatives serving on the Reference Group and the Council.

Council's Engagement policy is outside of the remit of the WCAM RG. Trish McClure to consider how future meetings may reflect our collaboration.

Action: check whether there was a survey to reference groups as a base line to hold discussions on charter.

6   Bike education and events - Council has partnered with Ride Nation – Auscycling to implement school-based education programs. Similarly, Council led events, like Ride the Gong, and activations like Pedal in the Park are coordinated by Council staff with EOI to local business to participate where appropriate. Our events team are continuing to investigate how they can both support private enterprise in this event space, and in planning our future community activities.
For many years the annual Ride the Gong event has been council's primary community bike activation. This was previously part of the state funded campaign NSW Bike Week. Council has developed a strong relationship with a specific group of biking organisations that support Ride the Gong. Past long-term supporters are always given the first right of refusal for ongoing participation at Ride the Gong.

It is a small community activation coordinated by Council's road safety officer who for 2021 introduced for the first time a shared path ride for the community.

Meeting closed 7.15pm. Next meeting – Tuesday 8 June 2021
Next agenda – include Network prioritisation of bike network.