

MINUTES

ACTIVE TRANSPORT REFERENCE GROUP 6PM ON WEDNESDAY 22 OCTOBER 2014



PRESENT	
Councillor Ann Martin (Chair)	Phil Latz
Councillor Jill Merrin	Stuart Porter
Werner Steyer	

IN ATTENDANCE	
Bianca Daxner, Traffic Engineer	Ted Collins, Traffic Unit Manager (WCC)
Peter Nunn, Transport & Stormwater Services Manager (WCC)	

- 1) **APOLOGIES** – Apologies were received and accepted on behalf of Mike Dowd
- 2) **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST** – Phil Latz, seeking to become an Australian agent for the bicycle scheme 'Lock8'
- 3) **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 3 JUNE 2014**
Recommendation: The minutes of the meeting held 03 June 2014 be confirmed as true and accurate.
- 4) **BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES** – NIL
- 5) **GENERAL BUSINESS**

ITEM 1: RAIL TRAILS FOR NSW WORKSHOP – SUMMARY

Peter Nunn provided an overview about Rail Trails (RT) within Australia. A workshop was held on 26 August 2014 and organised by Rail Trails for NSW, to share information regarding planning implementation and maintenance, there are currently no RTs in NSW. There is a potential to provide a RT along the disused railway corridor between Otford Station and Stanwell Park, and at this stage is for discussion only.

ITEM 2: BIKE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION – SUMMARY

A summary on the status of the bike plan implementation was provided by Peter Nunn. At this stage items are being taken from the bike plan and are being integrated into the council 5 year delivery program as well as the council annual plan, to form part of the council Integrated Planning and Reporting packages. These documents will be on public exhibition for consultation early next year, and then finalised around May 2015 to enable adoption for the next financial year's (2015/16) capital budget.

Werner Steyer asked the question about plans for Windang Bridge cycleway, with an opinion that the design should be expedited. Windang road is a state road and the bridge is an RMS asset, for this reason the cycleway project is in the hands of the RMS. Council is following up with the RMS to see if the RMS can expedite a design.

ITEM 3: CURRENT PROJECTS – SUMMARY

Two designs were presented for discussion.

Keira Street Pedestrian Refuge (Plan No. 5161 issue A):

The main point of concern was the kerb ramps that directed the cyclists behind the blister. It was noted that negotiating this sharp turn is not practical, and that most cyclists would just keep riding straight on the road in front of the blister. The preferred approach would be to reduce the width of the blister and provide a cycle lane in front of the blister and parallel to the vehicle lane.

Another point of concern was the bicycle pavement marking just north of the blister, the concern being that the bike symbol is misleading and it is not a bike lane as cars park in this lane. However, it should be noted that the pavement marking is for directional purposes only, directing the cyclists to proceed up the kerb ramp and behind the blister.

Smith Street on-road cycleway (Plan No 5331 issue 2):

The same issue was noted, being the sharp turn required to proceed up/down the kerb ramp (sheet SK07). A more skewed ramp or transitional ramp was suggested.

Suggestions were also made to tighten the corner leading from Belmore onto Smith Street, so as to slow vehicles down further. If not possible, a crossing of Smith Street further east (away from the blind corner) could be investigated with a shared path to be provided on the northern side.

6) OTHER BUSINESS

BICYCLE SHARE SCHEMES – SUMMARY

Spinway is a bike hire company that is operating out of the Novotel in North Wollongong. Phil Latz gave an overview on the business run by Matthew Ready. The current patronage is 8-12 bike hires per day, with the majority of customers cycling along the Blue Mile.

Stuart Porter spoke about a free bike hire scheme currently operating in Adelaide, where customers can leave their licence as a form of security to hire the bike, and then return the bike to the same point. Stuart is interested in starting a similar operation in Wollongong and base the bike hire out of Destination Wollongong (currently at 93 Crown Street)

VACANT POSITIONS UPDATE

An update was provided about the positions of a council Road Safety Officer as well as the current vacant position of pedestrian community representative on the ATRG.

The Road Safety Officer is currently being advertised, with applications closing 3/11/2014. After which applications will be considered followed by interviews and offers. The position will be part of a 3 year rolling program with funding split between council and the RMS.

Expressions of interest for the position of pedestrian community representative on the ATRG closed on 15/10/2014. Council will now review applicants before filling the position.

PLANNING FOR BIKE WEEK 2015

There is no budget as yet, however will be looking at funding from RMS (healthy cities program) and council. It is imperative to start planning as soon as possible. It is hoped that the new RSO will be able to facilitate planning of Bike Week 2015, along with the events team.

The purpose of Bike Week will be to promote safety and encourage cycling, with community representatives providing input as to what they would like to see in the program. To be rolled over to December meeting.

GO!FIX HAZARD REPORTING REQUESTS

Council received an email from Werner Steyer, expressing his preference for the use of Go!Fix and to be able to integrate with councils customer request service. Council has advised that special customer request processes like Go!fix will not be accommodated by Council due to the additional staff training, communication and manual checking that the special customer request process would necessitate.

Werner also mentioned that he is now emailing (to records@wollongong.nsw.gov.au) the Go!Fix requests himself to councils customer request service for council to follow up. There exists a problem with Werner not receiving any correspondence follow up. It is noted that the formal process will be sourced from Councils website and forwarded onto Werner.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

It was noted that any items for future meetings need to be submitted to council by one month prior to the meeting. All items are to be aligned with the ATRG Charter and members will need to complete an item template for submission.

The next meeting is to be held on Wednesday 3 December at 6:00pm

The meeting concluded at 7:45pm.

ACTION SUMMARY

No.	Meeting Date	Action	Officer	Status
10	19.6.13	Council update its standard design/construction drawings to provide bicycle friendly path construction joints, improve linemarking durability and help eliminate drop offs along bike path edges	WG	Completed
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
21	3.6.14	Incorporate suggestions put forward by the Active Transport Reference Group at the meeting on 3 June 2014 into the scope of the future city wide pedestrian plan	WG	In progress
22	22.10.14	Council to inform maintenance crews on correct construction joints for cycleway repair	BD	Active
23	22.10.14	Council to inform Werner Steyer about current methods to lodge a customer service request	BD	Active