



Hawkesbury City Council

Attachment 2
to
item 162

Draft Transport Policy

date of meeting: 25 August 2020
location: by audio-visual link
time: 6:30 p.m.



Hawkesbury City Council
Policy

Draft
Transport
Policy

Adopted by Council at the
Ordinary Meeting Held on
<<Insert Date and Resolution Number>>

Hawkesbury City Council

Division:	Executive Services	Policy Number:	Enter No
Branch:	Infrastructure Services	Adopted Date:	Enter Date
Responsible Officer:	Director Infrastructure Services	Next Review Date:	Enter Date
Director:	General Manager	Version:	1



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HAWKESBURY CITY COUNCIL POLICY

DRAFT TRANSPORT POLICY

1.0 TITLE

Transport Policy

2.0 PURPOSE

Council has for some time found itself in the position of having to respond to a series of “Transport” related matters, mostly emanating from the State Government.

On occasions Council has been approached directly – as the “entity” responsible for establishing the Strategic Direction of both the organisation and wider Local Government Area. On other occasions Council Officers have been approached for their professional and/or technical views on a particular issue.

It is not unusual for these approaches come close together, from within different sections of the larger State Government Bureaucracy and offering only limited time to reply.

The purpose of the Transport Policy is to establish a framework to guide both Council and Council Staff in the development of responses to these approaches that are timely, consistent and well informed.

The purpose of the Transport Policy is to ensure that where relevant, the following matters are taken into consideration when preparing responses – written or verbal, to representations, communications and consultations initiated by other parties:

- The role of Hawkesbury City Council – pursuant to *The Council's Charter – Section 8 of the Local Government Act*, in particular:
 - Exercising community leadership
 - Properly managing, developing, protecting, restoring, enhancing and conserving the environment of the area for which it is responsible, in a manner that is consistent with and promotes the principles of ecologically sustainable development
 - Having regard to the long term and cumulative effects of its decisions
 - Bearing in mind that it is the custodian and trustee of public assets and to effectively plan for, account for and manage the assets for which it is responsible
 - Engaging in long-term strategic planning on behalf of the local community
 - Keeping the local community and the State government (and through it, the wider community) informed about its activities
 - Ensuring that, in the exercise of its regulatory functions, it acts consistently and without bias, particularly where an activity of the council is affected
- The role of Councillors - as the elected representatives of Hawkesbury City Council
- Councils adopted Transport Model
- Councils geographic location in relation to:
 - The World Heritage Listed Blue Mountains National Park
 - The Hawkesbury – Nepean Basin, in the words of the Insurance Council of Australia, having the “*Highest single flood exposure in New South Wales, if not Australia*”
 - The Bells Line of Road – the alternative crossing over the Blue Mountains to Western and Central NSW
 - The Putty Road – an alternative route north to the Hunter Valley and beyond
 - Several long term transport corridor proposals including:
 - The Outer Orbital – ultimately linking the Hume Highway to the Central Coast
 - Western Freight Rail Link
 - M7 to Bells Line of Road Corridor
- Council's desire to
 - Pursue a long term “evidenced base” approach to decision making
 - Involve and engage the Community in accordance with the Community Consultation Plan
 - Preserve and protect Hawkesbury's unique Heritage, including matters relating to the:
 - traditional custodians of the land
 - more recent European Settlers, who established Windsor as the third oldest European Settlement in Australia
 - Preserve and protect Hawkesbury's Natural Environment, its:
 - rivers, floodplains and wetlands
 - remnant natural vegetation and associated ecosystems
 - physical geography and natural landforms



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- Enhance the safety of the Bells Line of Road through improved alignments and an increase in passing lanes whilst maintaining the environmental values and economy of the adjoining townships
- Establish an additional crossing of the Hawkesbury River, at a level above the 1:100 flood level, thereby providing access and certainty for residents and businesses located on both the east and west side of the Hawkesbury – Nepean River System in the event of a major flood:
 - Initially via the proposed Grose River Crossing and Springwood; and
 - In the longer term via a crossing or bypass option in the Vicinity of Richmond, Windsor, Pitt Town and Wilberforce, potentially in conjunction with the Outer Orbital
- Facilitate the duplication of the Richmond Suburban Rail Line – between Schofields and Richmond
- Facilitating the establishment of commuter parking and bus connectivity in association with railways stations along the Richmond Suburban Rail Line and current and future “Metro” lines
- Facilitating a genuine response to Urban heat Island Effect through the pursuit of new approaches to the design, construction and operation/maintenance of transport infrastructure
- Pursue an integrated and joined up approach to various transport corridors that are being considered in relation to the Western Parkland City
- Consider and capitalise on the implications of the potentially “Game Changing” nature of the Commonwealth Government's:
 - Inland Rail Project in directing freight movements from Central and Western NSW towards Melbourne and Brisbane, thereby avoiding the need for freight to come east across the Blue Mountains
 - 24/7 Western Sydney Airport Project as a potential link to domestic and international markets for locally produced good
- Investigate emerging transport options in relation in relation to:
 - Electric powered vehicles ranging from scooters to buses and trains
 - At grade and below ground solutions
- Consider the social, economic and environmental dimensions of Transport issues, in a way that promotes:
 - The social and physical health and well-being of the wider community
 - The consideration of the economic aspects of transport initiatives on the wider community, in particular in terms of the time and financial cost of transport proposals
 - The preservation of the economic vitality of our townships and villages

All of which contribute to the overall framework that guides both Council and Council Staff in the development of verbal and written responses to approaches from other parties.

3.0 SCOPE

Transport issues affected by this Policy can involve one or more of the following:

- Commonwealth, State, Council and/or Private Developer initiated matters
- Governance, financial, communication and physical infrastructure considerations
- Longer term development of strategy and transport models, shorter term project planning and approvals or more immediate project construction and commissioning
- Transport considerations involving one or more of the following:
 - Private Transport
 - Public Transport
 - Active Transport
 - Freight and commerce related Transport
 - The financing of Transport, ranging from Council Rates and Government Taxes to Developer Contributions to Tollways



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4.0 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITY

The role of Hawkesbury City Council is guided by *The Council's Charter – Section 8 of the Local Government Act*, in particular:

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- Having regard to the long term and cumulative effects of its decisions
- Bearing in mind that it is the custodian and trustee of public assets and to effectively plan for, account for and manage the assets for which it is responsible
- Engaging in long-term strategic planning on behalf of the local community
- Keeping the local community and the State government (and through it, the wider community) informed about its activities
- Ensuring that, in the exercise of its regulatory functions, it acts consistently and without bias, particularly where an activity of the council is affected

The role of Council Staff is guided by Council's Deed of Delegation to the General Manager in accordance with the Delegations Policy.

5.0 DEFINITIONS

Delegation: means the conferral of an authority to an identified position to exercise a power or duty on behalf of Council. The authority is exercised in the name of the delegate.

Delegations Register: is a central register maintained to ensure legislative and administrative delegations and legislative authorisations are accurately stored and available to all staff and members of the public. The Delegations Register is managed via an Electronic Software Database.

6.0 RELATED DOCUMENTS

Legislation

Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)
Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 (NSW)

Policies

Code of Conduct
Delegations Policy

Templates

Policy Template