

Adoption of the Transport Asset Management Plan

Strategic Alignment - Our Places

Public

Tuesday, 16 April 2024

Infrastructure and Public Works Committee

Program Contact:

Mark Goudge, Associate Director Infrastructure

Approving Officer:

Tom McCready, Director City Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to present the community feedback and consultation outcomes of the draft Transport Asset Management Plan (AM Plan), in conjunction with feedback received from the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) and seek Council adoption of a finalised Transport AM Plan as required under the *Local Government Act (SA) 1999*. Each of our six AM Plans will require Council adoption prior to 30 June 2024 to enable review by the Essential Services Commission of South Australia (ESCOSA) in 2024/25.

At its 12 December 2023 meeting, Council was presented the draft Transport AM Plan and endorsed it to be released to community consultation for an eight-week period between 8 December 2023 and 9 February 2024. Community consultation included a Your Say engagement page in conjunction with two drop-in sessions that were held at the Hutt Street Library (24 January 2024) and the North Adelaide Library on Tynte Street (31 January 2024). The community was notified of the consultation through the Government Gazette and Public Notice in the Advertiser, as well as physical and electronic promotion including signage at community centres and social media campaigns.

Through the 'Your Say' engagement process, we received 408 visits to the Transport and Urban Elements AM Plan landing page, with 98 visitors who viewed the Transport AM Plan feedback form, resulting in 15 survey responses for the Transport AM Plan. In addition to the 'Your Say' responses, we also had six verbal conversations with members of the community at the drop-in sessions, which have been captured as general feedback. While community engagement response numbers were low, the consultation outcomes demonstrated community support for the draft Transport AM Plan. The feedback received did not prompt any major adjustments for the finalisation of the Transport AM Plan, other than minor editorial amendments. All consultation responses have been collated and summarised in **Attachment A**.

Of the 15 survey responses, 11 (73%) were supportive of the draft Transport AM Plan and 4 (27%) were not supporting of the draft Transport AM Plan.

The draft Transport AM Plan was also presented to the Audit and Risk Committee on 16 February 2024 for review and comment. Recommendations were made to adjust wording within the executive summary for the purposes of better informing the community what is covered within each asset class. The finalised AM Plan contains this information in Section 2 of the concise AM Plan Summary (**Attachment B**) and Section 1.2 of the Comprehensive AM Plan (**Attachment B**).

RECOMMENDATION

The following recommendation will be presented to Council on 23 April 2024 for consideration.

THAT THE INFRASTRUCTURE AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL THAT COUNCIL:

1. Receives the community feedback for the draft Transport Asset Management Plan included in the Engagement Summary & Submissions Report provided in Attachment A to Item 7.5 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Infrastructure and Public Works Committee held on 16 April 2024.

2. Notes that the draft Transport Asset Management Plan was presented to the Audit and Risk Committee on 16 February 2024 for review and comment, where recommendations were made to adjust wording within the executive summary for the purposes of better informing the community what is covered within each asset class.
 3. Notes that there were no changes made to the draft Transport Asset Management Plan in response to the feedback received through community consultation and the advice received from the Audit and Risk Committee, other than minor editorial and formatting changes.
 4. Adopts the Transport Asset Management Plan provided in Attachment B and C to Item 7.5 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Infrastructure and Public Works Committee held on 16 April 2024
 5. Notes that the adopted Transport Asset Management Plan will be included into the 24/25 Business Plan and Budget and Long Term Financial Plan.
 6. Notes that the Transport Asset Management Plan will be reviewed on an annual basis, where any material changes to financial forecasts will be considered through the Annual Business Plan and Budget process and incorporated as updates to the Long Term Financial Plan.
 7. Authorises the Acting Chief Executive Officer or delegate to make minor and technical amendments as required (including updates to adopted budgets in the Long Term Financial Plan), to the Transport Asset Management Plan documents contained in Attachment B to Item 7.5 on the Agenda for the meeting of the Infrastructure and Public Works Committee held on 16 April 2024.
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IMPLICATIONS AND FINANCIALS

City of Adelaide 2024-2028 Strategic Plan	Strategic Alignment – Our Places Manage our assets to meet the needs of the community.
Policy	Asset Management Policy Strategic AM Plan Public Communication and Consultation Policy
Consultation	Consultation on the draft Transport AM Plan was open from Friday 15 December 2023 to Friday 9 February 2024. The results of the consultation feedback and analysis are provided within, and as an attachment to this report for Council’s consideration prior to adopting the Transport AM Plan.
Resource	Not as a result of this report
Risk / Legal / Legislative	The review and update of AM Plans, including levels of service, is required every four years or within two years of a general Council election pursuant to section 122 of the <i>Local Government Act 1999 (SA)</i> .
Opportunities	The Transport AM Plan defines asset levels of service to ensure assets are meeting the community’s current and future requirements.
23/24 Budget Allocation	Not as a result of this report
Proposed 24/25 Budget Allocation	2024/25 budgets will be set by Council through the Annual Business Plan and Budget Process (noting Asset Renewal Funding Ratio targets of between 90-110%). Asset renewal is generally funded through operational revenue, which includes rates, commercial revenue and grant allocations.
Life of Project, Service, Initiative or (Expectancy of) Asset	There are implications for the future lifecycle management of our transport portfolio, including operation, maintenance and renewal of assets. These are presented in detail within the Transport AM Plan.
23/24 Budget Reconsideration (if applicable)	Not as a result of this report
Ongoing Costs (eg maintenance cost)	As documented within AM Plan (no change).
Other Funding Sources	External funding opportunities will continually be pursued to offset costs, bring forward works, or provide for additional enhancements.

DISCUSSION

1. The purpose of this report is to present the community feedback and consultation outcomes of the draft Transport AM Plan, in conjunction with feedback received from the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) and seek Council adoption of a finalised Transport AM Plan (AM Plan) as required under the *Local Government Act (SA) 1999*. Each of our six AM Plans will require Council adoption prior to 30 June 2024 to enable review by the Essential Services Commission of South Australia (ESCOSA).

Background

2. In November 2021, we undertook an engagement process with City residents and visitors to better understand and measure levels of satisfaction of users who utilise the services provided by our transport infrastructure.
3. At its 14 June 2022 meeting Council received a report noting the results of the community consultation undertaken to benchmark current user satisfaction and approved the development of a draft Transport AM Plan based on the planning principles and recommended management strategies (levels of service) presented within the report and its Attachments [\[Link 1\]](#)
4. At its 12 December 2023 meeting, Council received the draft Transport AM Plan and endorsed it to be released to community consultation for an eight-week period between 8 December 2023 and 9 February 2024 [\[Link 2\]](#)
5. At its 16 February 2024 meeting, the Audit and Risk Committee was presented the draft Transport AM Plan for review and comment. Recommendations were made to adjust wording within the executive summary for the purposes of better informing the community what is covered within each asset class [\[Link 3\]](#)

Consultation Process

6. Community consultation ran for an 8-week period between 15 December 2023 and 9 February 2024.
7. This 8-week period exceeded the minimum requirements (21 days) of Section 50 of the *Local Government Act 1999 (SA)*, as well as exceeded the 6-week consultation period recommended under Council's Community Consultation Policy.
8. Community consultation included a 'Your Say' engagement page in conjunction with two drop-in sessions that were held at the Hutt Street Library (24 January 2024) and the North Adelaide Library on Tynte Street (31 January 2024).
9. To ensure the community was informed and aware of their opportunities to provide feedback into this process, consultation included:
 - 9.1. Public notice in the South Australian Government Gazette on 14 December 2023.
 - 9.2. Public note in The Advertiser newspaper on 15 December 2023.
 - 9.3. Physical promotion at libraries and community centres.
 - 9.4. Electronic promotion through social media platforms.
 - 9.5. Notification to registered Yoursay stakeholders (over 10,000 registered users) via the Your Say email newsletter on 20 December 2023 and 16 January 2024.
 - 9.6. Notifications to registered CoA newsletter subscribers.
10. Through the 'Your Say' engagement, we received 408 visits to the Transport and Urban Elements AM Plan landing page, with 98 visitors who viewed the Transport AM Plan feedback form, resulting in 15 survey responses for the Transport AM Plan.
11. Of the 15 survey responses, 11 (73%) were supportive of the draft Transport AM Plan and 4 (27%) were not supporting of the draft Transport AM Plan. All consultation responses have been collated and summarised in **Attachment A**.
12. From the four responses that were not supportive of the Plan, the general themes of written feedback were that the City's cycling network needed to be safer and better connected, with more separated cycleways.
13. While this feedback is considered constructive and valuable, it falls outside the intended purpose of the Transport AM Plan, which is to forecast the operations, maintenance and renewal requirements of our existing assets.

14. Strategic improvements to our transport network, including provision of new separated cycle ways, will be guided by the Integrated Transport Strategy (currently under development) and realised through the subsequent initiation, funding and delivery of key new and upgrade projects. While this AM Plan does not identify financial forecasts associated with new and upgrade projects, integrated planning will ensure required asset renewals are aligned (where practical) with key new and upgrade projects linked to our Strategic Plan objectives, that are represented in the Resource Plan and funded through the Business Plan and Budget.
15. Feedback was also received that cycling infrastructure needed to be better represented within the AM Plan. Consideration of separating shared use paths and separated cycleways into distinct asset classes will be incorporated into the improvement Plan.
16. In addition to the Your Say responses, we also had six verbal conversations with members of the community at the drop-in sessions, which have been captured as general feedback and can be found summarised in **Attachment A**.
17. While community engagement response numbers were low, the consultation outcomes demonstrated community support for the draft Transport AM Plan.

Audit and Risk Committee Advice

18. The draft Transport AM Plan was presented to the Audit and Risk Committee on 16 February 2024 for review and comment. Recommendations were made to adjust wording within the executive summary for the purposes of better informing the community what is covered within each asset class [\[Link 3\]](#)

Finalised Transport AM Plan

19. The feedback from community consultation and the Audit and Risk Committee did not prompt any substantial changes to the draft Transport AM Plan, other than minor editorial and formatting changes.
20. The finalised Transport AM Plan is presented in **Attachment B** (Summary Transport AM Plan) and **Attachment C** (Comprehensive Transport AM Plan).

Next Steps

21. The 2024/25 Business Plan and Budget will be prepared in line with the requirements of the updated Transport AM Plan, with the LTFP being updated through this process.
22. The remaining five AM Plans will be presented to Council for adoption by 30 June 2024.
23. Following adoption of all six AM Plans, in 2024/25 ESCOSA will assess City of Adelaide's long-term financial sustainability.
24. Following adoption of the 24/25 Business Plan and Budget and updates to the LTFP, minor amendments will be made to the Transport AM Plan, under the authorisation of the Acting Chief Executive Officer, to reflect changes to adopted budget allocations for the Transport AM Plan (i.e. showing to what extent the AM Plan has been funded by Council)

DATA AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Link 1 - Council Meeting Agenda 14 June 2022

Link 2 - Council Meeting Agenda 12 December 2023

Link 3 - Audit and Risk Committee Meeting Agenda 16 February 2024

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A - Transport AM Plan Engagement Summary & Submissions Report

Attachment B - Transport AM Plan (Summary)

Attachment C - Transport AM Plan (Comprehensive)

- END OF REPORT -