

## Transport Community Reference Group

Date: **Tuesday, 4 August 2020**

Time: **9.30 – 11.30 am**

Location: **Council Chambers, Cnr Currie & Bury Sts, Nambour (MS Teams)**

### Community Representatives:

Paul William-Smith	Liz Harris	Ryan Hollis	Susan Scott (OnLine)
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### Key Organisation Representatives:

Clark Chappel (OnLine)	Suncoast Cabs
John O'Brien	Sunbus
Grace Willems (OnLine)	RACQ
Greg Smith	OSCAR
Narelle McCarthy (OnLine)	Sunshine Coast Environment Council
Paul Camilleri	University of the Sunshine Coast
Matt Campbell (Guest)	Kinetic

### Council Representatives:

Cr Rick Baberowski (Chair)	Division 1, Community Portfolio (Arts, Heritage, Transport)
Cr Winston Johnston (OnLine)	Division 5, Service Excellence Portfolio
Tom Jamieson	Group Executive, Built Infrastructure
Nick Cooney	Manager, Transport and Infrastructure Planning
George Pegoraro	Co-ordinator, Transport Strategy & Policy
Rodney Zinn	Co-ordinator, Traffic and Transportation
Matt Pitot	Senior Planner, Transport Strategy & Policy
Cate Moloney	Administration

### Apologies:

Robyn Elkojje	Be
Russell Johnson	Community rep
Don Pitt	Sunshine Coast Council
Paul Fisher	Regional Development Australia
Mary Barber	Community rep

**1. Welcome & Apologies** – Member introductions around the room and online.

### 2. COVID-19 impacts on travel/transport

The following observations, impacts, behaviour changes and return to business were discussed:

- Apple Mobility Trends (Jan-July 2020) – There was discussion around changes in driving, walking and public transport use.
- Increased active transport with less traffic.
- Good signage along footpaths.
- Pedestrian signals have been slow.
- Sunbus has done a great job in practicing social distancing, but no hand sanitiser.
- Patronage on public transport has dropped, however higher number on school buses (Gold Coast).
- Buses are being kept clean and sanitised, essential workers still using public transport with normal services continuing. Cashless buses and use of signage and taping off drivers (Smart ticketing solutions program currently being developed by TransLink).
- Car is a safe bubble.
- Working from home will affect travel.
- RACQ survey summary of 100 people – Grace Willems spoke to a comprehensive list of behaviour changes, some of which were decreasing trip numbers and mode change. There is still concern about social distancing with some people preferring to work from home.

- Suncoast Cabs – Hit hard by COVID-19 with 60% of drivers resigning by second week of April (partly due to age vulnerability) with 10% of fleet deregistered. No travel in front seat allowed and no more than three people in a taxi. Greater numbers require the use of a maxi taxi with social distancing. Drivers requested to sanitise after each trip. There has been an increase in wheelchair trips since last year. Have taken on role of transferring dialysis patients to the hospital. There are currently 100 driver positions available.
- SCEC organisation has shifted to online with Nambour office just reopening. Have been staying in contact with groups via social media. Confidence in public transport may take a little while to return. From an environment perspective, decrease in industry and traffic has had a positive effect on reducing carbon emissions.
- Commuters into Brisbane are being encouraged not to use trains and using cars instead.
- People are holidaying locally and using their cars more than flying.
- University students have been studying from home and will be returning in a couple of weeks. Shuttle buses from other campuses were cancelled. Fleet vehicle use being sanitised and require pre-approval. Most staff currently still working from home. Students will need to bring sanitiser for parking ticket machines or use the app. Onsite there are 20 netball games commencing this weekend with transport, parking and traffic logistics.
- BE clients are in the vulnerable category so they have had to change their business focus and are now providing welfare calls, using care army for doorknocking and arranging tele chats (USC students). Council Link vehicles are being limited to one customer per vehicle unless a larger vehicle is available and wearing masks.
- Council has been able to increase its maintenance efficiencies to roads and stormwater due to reduced traffic.
- Cruise ship industry has had a high level of future bookings, surprisingly.
- Council using traffic counters to inform us better with evidence.
- Council staff back in the office with some still working from home as a consequence of social distancing.
- Impact on population growth?
- New data sources for potential use to understand more.
- Increase infrastructure for active transport while it is more popular.

### **3. Transport Levy Program 2020/21 – brief run through**

- Council has adopted the 2020/21 program
- The Transport Levy Annual Report 2019/20 is currently being developed.
- The Transport Levy continued to contribute to a number of bus stop infrastructure upgrades across the Sunshine Coast. These bus stop upgrades will benefit all users through ensuring compliance with the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*. As of 30 June 2020 approximately 97% of Council's bus stops achieve compliance with the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*. The Levy has enabled Council to be well prepared to meet the required milestone of full compliance by end of December 2022.

### **4. Public Transport – Where should change be focussed?**

- Demand Responsive Transport (TransLink has trialled in Logan with success). A call is placed to an operator in a central location who gathers like-minded persons travelling in the same direction for pick up and drop off at designated zones. Larger buses used on feeder networks and smaller vehicles used in suburbs.
- Electric buses.
- Alternative fuels
- Future of Buses - Smart solutions for buses are being investigated (eg air-conditioning vs windows, installing trees/shade around bus stops) looking at holistic solutions.
- Increase patronage numbers

- More frequency
- More investment
- Innovation Hubs.

## 5. Status Update

- 5.1. Road Safety Plan Review (2020-25) – Council staff to meet with Councillors next week to review plan as it ends in 2020. Council will be engaging with key stakeholders including this group and RACQ, Qld Police etc.
- 5.2. Parking Recap
  - New Councillors have been briefed during Workshops including on use of Technology / license plate for regulation enforcement and parking management.
  - USC - LPR recognition being used at University with Rideshare / Liftango info being sent directly to the database to allow that vehicle to be parked on site. Parking management being reviewed overall.
  - There was discussion regarding first three hours free parking for locals (shopping centres etc). It was advised that registrations can only be accessed for enforcement, possible future 'opt in' system.
- 5.3. Travel Behaviour Change – Due to COVID-19, this project had been on hold from late April and recommenced late July.

## 6. M2M Cycleway (Stage 6: Mary Street to Sixth Avenue)

A summary of the project and consultation process was discussed, noting previous presentation by Council at the meeting held in August 2019.

Group discussion included:

- More holistic approach required in the construction, design and location of the infrastructure in such a restrained corridor (erosion, Mass Transit, seawall etc.)
- TMR will be providing the best way forward for the best balanced solution for this active transport component, keeping traffic lanes and incorporating open space while dealing with increasing population and use of corridor, and managing parking disruptions.
- Effective community engagement.
- Council officers meet regularly with TMR and provide feedback via the Technical Reference Group and steering committee.

**ACTION:** TMR Project team be invited to present at the next TCRG meeting.

## 7. Members' Issues

- 7.1 [Sunshine Coast Mass Transit Project](#) - Preliminary Business Case and Options Analysis.

The three stages are:

- Strategic Business Case
- Preliminary Business Case and Options Analysis
- Detailed Business Case.

There were discussions around the timing of community consultation. Previous consultation engaged the community on the Light Rail and Alignment which significantly supported and endorsed the proposal to progress a business case. Council is likely to consider this matter at an August meeting.

This item will be discussed at a future meeting.

## 8. General Business

There was no general business.

## Next Meeting – 2020 Meetings (to be confirmed)

- 10 November 2020

The meeting closed 11.48 AM

**Suggested Presentations for future meeting**

- Caloundra Road to Sunshine Motorway (CR2SM) – TMR Project team
- B2N
- Mass Transit Project

**Suggested Agenda Items for future meetings**

- Mobility and Autonomous Vehicles
- Emerging Technologies / Adapting to change
- Optimising On-Street Parking
- E-buses
- Demand Responsive Transport Trial – Findings
- The Importance of Travel Behaviour Change (TCRG suggested focus areas)
- SEQ Regional Transport Plan – Impacts for SCC