



City of Ipswich

**IPSWICH
CITY
COUNCIL**

AGENDA

of the

COMMUNITY, CULTURE, ARTS AND SPORT COMMITTEE

**Held in the Council Chambers
8th floor – 1 Nicholas Street
IPSWICH QLD 4305**

**On Thursday, 10 February 2022
At 10 minutes after the conclusion of the Governance and Transparency Committee**

MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY, CULTURE, ARTS AND SPORT COMMITTEE

Councillor Andrew Fechner (**Chairperson**)
Councillor Kate Kunzelmann (**Deputy Chairperson**)

Mayor Teresa Harding
Councillor Jacob Madsen
Deputy Mayor Nicole Jonic

COMMUNITY, CULTURE, ARTS AND SPORT COMMITTEE AGENDA
*10 minutes after the conclusion of the Governance and Transparency
Committee on Thursday, 10 February 2022*
in the Council Chambers, 8th Floor, 1 Nicholas Street, Ipswich

Item No.	Item Title	Page No.
	Welcome to Country or Acknowledgement of Country	
	Declarations of Interest	
	Business Outstanding	
	Confirmation of Minutes	
1	Confirmation of Minutes of the Community, Culture, Arts and Sport Committee No. 2021(11) of 1 December 2021	7
	Officers' Reports	
2	Quarterly Event Sponsorship and Ticket Allocation Report	13
3	Recreational Cycling and Walking Action Plan	16
	Notices of Motion	
	Matters Arising	

** Item includes confidential papers

COMMUNITY, CULTURE, ARTS AND SPORT COMMITTEE NO. 1

10 FEBRUARY 2022

AGENDA

WELCOME TO COUNTRY OR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

BUSINESS OUTSTANDING

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY, CULTURE, ARTS AND SPORT COMMITTEE NO. 2021(11) OF 1 DECEMBER 2021**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 1 December 2021 be confirmed.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

2. **QUARTERLY EVENT SPONSORSHIP AND TICKET ALLOCATION REPORT**

This is a report concerning event sponsorship approved in the period 1 October to 31 December 2021 which is required under the Event Sponsorship Policy.

RECOMMENDATION

- A. That Council note the following event sponsorship was approved during the 1 October to 31 December 2021 period:
 - Category 2 Event Sponsorship of \$24,721 ex GST and marketing in-kind support up to \$5,000 in value as well as Venue Hire of \$350 standard ground permit at the North Ipswich Reserve to the Brisbane Roar Football Club for the 2021 A-league friendly football match between Brisbane Roar and Adelaide United Football Clubs.
 - B. That Council note there were no event sponsorship ticket allocations made.
-

3. RECREATIONAL CYCLING AND WALKING ACTION PLAN

This is a report concerning the development of the Recreational Cycling and Walking Action Plan (RCWAP), a key deliverable of the Active Ipswich Strategy.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the *Recreational Cycling and Walking Action Plan*, as detailed in Attachment 1.

NOTICES OF MOTION

MATTERS ARISING

COMMUNITY, CULTURE, ARTS AND SPORT COMMITTEE NO. 2021(11)

1 DECEMBER 2021

MINUTES

COUNCILLORS' ATTENDANCE: Councillor Andrew Fechner (Chairperson); Councillors Kate Kunzelmann (Deputy Chairperson), Mayor Teresa Harding, Jacob Madsen, Deputy Mayor Nicole Jonic, Councillor Sheila Ireland (Observer) and Councillor Marnie Doyle (Observer)

COUNCILLOR'S APOLOGIES: Nil

OFFICERS' ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive Officer (Sonia Cooper), General Manager Community, Cultural and Economic Development (Ben Pole), Acting General Manager Corporate Services (Sylvia Swalling), Acting General Manager Coordination and Performance (Barbara Dart), Chief Financial Officer (Jeff Keech), Senior Digital Media and Content Officer (Jodie Richter), Senior Policy and Communications Officer (David Shaw), Manager, Community and Cultural Services (Don Stewart), Manager, Marketing and Promotions (Carly Gregory), Manager, Economic and Community Development (Cat Matson), Manager, Libraries and Customer Services (Samantha Chandler) and Theatre Technician (Trent Gray)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Councillor Andrew Fechner (Chairperson) invited Councillor Kate Kunzelmann to deliver an Acknowledgement of Country.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

Nil

BUSINESS OUTSTANDING

1. **COUNCILLOR LOCAL OFFICE SPACE UPDATE**

This is a report concerning progress made and options still being explored in response to the 22 July 2021 Notice of Motion and subsequent 19 August Notice of Motion Response relating to Councillor Local Office Space.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Councillor Andrew Fechner:
Seconded by Deputy Mayor Nicole Jonic:

That the Councillor Local Office Space Update be received and the contents noted.

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Fechner

Kunzelmann

Harding

Madsen

Jonic

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

The motion was put and carried.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY, CULTURE, ARTS AND SPORT COMMITTEE NO. 2021(10) OF 4 NOVEMBER 2021

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Councillor Andrew Fechner:
Seconded by Councillor Kate Kunzelmann:

That the minutes of the Community, Culture, Arts and Sport Committee No. 2021(10) held on 4 November 2021 be confirmed.

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Fechner

Kunzelmann

Harding

Madsen

Jonic

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

The motion was put and carried.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

3. **CHANGE TO ROSEWOOD LIBRARY OPENING HOURS**

This is a report concerning a review of opening hours at Rosewood Library resulting in a proposed change to opening hours.

In response to community feedback directly to library staff and via the CES portal, community consultation was undertaken via an online and hard copy survey to determine the community's needs and preferences.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Councillor Andrew Fechner:

Seconded by Councillor Kate Kunzelmann:

That Council endorse the proposed changes to opening hours at Rosewood Library to be effective from 4 January 2022.

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Fechner

Kunzelmann

Harding

Madsen

Jonic

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

The motion was put and carried.

4. **SPARK IPSWICH FESTIVAL 2021 - POST EVENT REPORT**

This is a report providing post event reporting of the inaugural SPARK Ipswich Festival which was held over 11 days in July 2021 attended by 33,661 people across 91 events delivered by 330 artists and arts workers.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Councillor Andrew Fechner:

Seconded by Councillor Kate Kunzelmann:

That the report providing post event reporting of the inaugural SPARK Ipswich Festival 2021 be received and the contents noted.

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Fechner

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

Kunzelmann
Harding
Madsen
Jonic

The motion was put and carried.

5. KIDS OUTDOOR RECREATION PROGRAM EVALUATION

This is a report concerning the community participation in Council's Kids Go Wild – Outdoor Recreation Program in the September/October 2021 school holidays. Kids Go Wild – Outdoor Recreation provided free 'come and try' style outdoor recreation activities, including canoeing, birdwatching and fishing. Activities were hosted in a variety of Ipswich's parks and conservation estates to encourage both physical activity and participation in outdoor recreation. Following positive community response to the activities and feedback data, Council is planning to host another program in the April 2022 school holidays with additional activities to those delivered during the recent school holidays.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Councillor Andrew Fechner:
Seconded by Councillor Kate Kunzelmann:

That the Kids Outdoor Recreation Program Evaluation report be received and the contents noted.

AFFIRMATIVE
Councillors:
Fechner
Kunzelmann
Harding
Madsen
Jonic

NEGATIVE
Councillors:
Nil

The motion was put and carried.

6. COMMUNITY FUNDING AND SUPPORT ALLOCATIONS STATUS REPORT - 1 JULY 2021 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

This is a report concerning the first quarter allocation of Council's Community Funding and Support Programs from 1 July 2021 to 30 September 2021.

In the 2021-2022 financial year Council allocated a total of \$829,415.70 to support the Ipswich community through the Community Funding and Support Programs.

In the first quarter, from 1 July 2021 to 30 September 2021, Council allocated \$356,729.50 to 81 Ipswich community groups, sporting organisations, artists, and wildlife carers.

All successful applicants and projects are detailed in Attachment 1 and also reported online at www.ipswich.qld.gov.au/services/funding-and-support in accordance with Council's principles of transparency and the Community Funding and Support Policy.

RECOMMENDATION

Moved by Councillor Andrew Fechner:

Seconded by Councillor Kate Kunzelmann:

That the report concerning the first quarter allocation of Council's Community Funding and Support Programs from 1 July 2021 to 30 September 2021 be received and the contents noted.

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Fechner

Kunzelmann

Harding

Madsen

Jonic

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

The motion was put and carried.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COMMUNITY, CULTURE, ARTS AND SPORT COMMITTEE FOR 2021

Councillor Andrew Fechner (Chairperson) moved a procedural motion to move outside of meeting procedure to provide some of the highlights of the Community, Culture, Arts and Sport Committee for 2021.

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Fechner

Kunzelmann

Harding

Madsen

Jonic

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

The motion was put and carried.

Councillor Andrew Fechner (Chairperson) moved a procedural motion to return to meeting procedure.

AFFIRMATIVE

Councillors:

Fechner

Kunzelmann

Harding

Madsen

Jonic

NEGATIVE

Councillors:

Nil

The motion was put and carried.

NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

MATTERS ARISING

Nil

PROCEDURAL MOTIONS AND FORMAL MATTERS

The meeting commenced at 10.06 am.

The meeting closed at 10.36 am.

Doc ID No: A7847460

ITEM: 2
SUBJECT: QUARTERLY EVENT SPONSORSHIP AND TICKET ALLOCATION REPORT
AUTHOR: EVENT SPONSORSHIP AND ATTRACTION OFFICER
DATE: 18 JANUARY 2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a report concerning event sponsorship approved in the period 1 October to 31 December 2021 which is required under the Event Sponsorship Policy.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- A. That Council note the following event sponsorship was approved during the 1 October to 31 December 2021 period:**
- **Category 2 Event Sponsorship of \$24,721 ex GST and marketing in-kind support up to \$5,000 in value as well as Venue Hire of \$350 standard ground permit at the North Ipswich Reserve to the Brisbane Roar Football Club for the 2021 A-league friendly football match between Brisbane Roar and Adelaide United Football Clubs.**
- B. That Council note there were no event sponsorship ticket allocations made.**

RELATED PARTIES

Brisbane Roar Football Club

Adelaide United Football Club

Ipswich Western Pride Football Club

Council liaison: Dan Heenan, Coordinator – Major Projects and Advocacy

IFUTURE THEME

Safe, Inclusive and Creative

PURPOSE OF REPORT/BACKGROUND

Under Council's Event Sponsorship Policy, it is required that all event sponsorships including Category 2 sponsorships above \$15,000 (approved by Council resolution) and Category 1 under \$15,000 (approved under delegation by the General Manager Community, Cultural

and Economic Development) and all ticket allocations are recorded in a quarterly report to the Community, Culture, Arts and Sport Committee.

In the period of 1 October 2021 to 31 December 2021 the following event sponsorships were approved:

Category 2 Event Sponsorship of \$24,721 ex GST and marketing in-kind support of up to \$5,000 in value as well as Venue Hire of \$350 standard ground permit at the North Ipswich Reserve to the Brisbane Roar Football Club for the 2021 A-league friendly football match between Brisbane Roar and Adelaide United Football Clubs.

LEGAL/POLICY BASIS

This report and its recommendations are consistent with the following legislative provisions:
Local Government Act 2009

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

No risks have been identified. The report transparently outlines event sponsorships approved within delegation during the three-month reporting period.

No tickets were allocated within the sponsorship agreement and therefore, no risks are identified with the Ticket/Invitation Allocation Standards.

HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACTS
RECEIVE AND NOTE REPORT
Recommendation A states that the report be noted. The decision to note the report does not limit human rights. Therefore, the decision is compatible with human rights.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The outlined financial support will be covered by dedicated event sponsorship funding allocated within the 2021/2022 City Events budget. The outlined in-kind support will be provided or facilitated through council's relevant council branches.

COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION

Meetings were held with the representatives from the sponsored organisation and Dan Heenan as the council liaison prior to, during and following the submission of the event sponsorship application. A panel assessment was undertaken as per event sponsorship procedures, presented to the marketing and promotions manager and branch manager.

Marketing Services were consulted to confirm that any in-kind support requested could be provided.

CONCLUSION

Under Council's Event Sponsorship Policy, it is required that all event sponsorships and all ticket allocations are recorded in a quarterly report to the Community, Culture, Arts and Sport Committee.

This report details all event sponsorships approved within 1 October 2021 to 31 December 2021 reporting period.

Natalie Weibel

EVENT SPONSORSHIP AND ATTRACTION OFFICER

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Carly Gregory

MANAGER, MARKETING AND PROMOTION

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Ben Pole

GENERAL MANAGER, COMMUNITY, CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

"Together, we proudly enhance the quality of life for our community"

Doc ID No: A7806759

ITEM: 3

SUBJECT: RECREATIONAL CYCLING AND WALKING ACTION PLAN

AUTHOR: SENIOR PLANNING OFFICER (OPEN SPACE RECREATION)

DATE: 21 JANUARY 2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is a report concerning the development of the Recreational Cycling and Walking Action Plan (RCWAP), a key deliverable of the Active Ipswich Strategy.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council adopt the *Recreational Cycling and Walking Action Plan*, as detailed in Attachment 1.

RELATED PARTIES

There was no declaration of conflicts of interest arising as a result of this report and its recommendations.

IFUTURE THEME

Vibrant and Growing

PURPOSE OF REPORT/BACKGROUND

At its Ordinary Meeting on 21 October 2021, Council adopted the Active Ipswich Strategy 2031 (AIS2031). The AIS2031 has been identified in the Ipswich iFuture Corporate Plan as a catalyst project for 2021-2026. The AIS2031 is a key project outcome under the 'Vibrant and Growing' theme, which seeks to ensure that 'our city is active and healthy with a variety of activities, facilities and services on offer for all to take part'.

In 2020 the *Analysis of Sport and Recreation and Physical Activities and Trend* report identified walking and cycling as the two highest participated activities within the Ipswich community. As a result, the development of a RCWAP was included as a key recommendation of the AIS2031 and considered one of the high priority actions to be delivered by 2024.

The RCWAP is essential in working towards the goals and objectives of the AIS2031 and is central to the identification of Council's operational and capital funded walking and cycling infrastructure projects. Council has developed the RCWAP as a commitment to increase participation in recreational cycling and walking which directly supports health and wellbeing outcomes for the Ipswich community.

The RCWAP was developed with a cross-departmental project team, in consultation with the Ipswich community. The RCWAP provides Council with the following outcomes (the full report can be viewed in Attachment 1):

- Key findings and themes from the community consultation regarding cycling and walking;
- A plan that is inclusive of prioritised actions, capital and operational projects that builds towards a connected, sustainable, and safe recreational cycling and walking network;
- A plan that aims to develop supportive cycling and walking communities and grow a positive cycling and walking culture;
- Performance indicators to monitor progress in recreational cycling and walking participation and infrastructure.

LEGAL/POLICY BASIS

This report and its recommendations are consistent with the following legislative provisions:
Not Applicable

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

If Council does not support or adopt the RCWAP, then the opportunities for participation in recreational cycling and walking to support health and wellbeing outcomes for the Ipswich community may be compromised. There is a risk that Council will not have any strategic direction in place for the planning of recreational cycling and walking infrastructure nor the activation of such infrastructure.

In addition, if the RCWAP is not adopted, it could be considered that Council is not aligning its commitment to iFuture. Failure to adopt the RCWAP could impede Council's ability to deliver upon this outcome and the goal of 'our city is active and healthy with a variety of activities, facilities and services on offer for all to take part'.

HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACTS	
OTHER DECISION	
(a) What is the Act/Decision being made?	The Recommendation states that Council adopt the Recreational Cycling and Walking Action Plan.
(b) What human rights are affected?	No human rights are affected by this decision. This is because the Recreational Cycling and Walking Action Plan's aim is to increase accessibility and to provide more walking and cycling opportunities for the public. It will allow people to be more active and is enhancing people's ability to recreate and be healthier.

(c) How are the human rights limited?	Not applicable
(d) Is there a good reason for limiting the relevant rights? Is the limitation fair and reasonable?	Not applicable
(e) Conclusion	The decision is consistent with human rights.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

If adopted, there will be operational and capital related projects that will need to be considered for funding in future budget allocations. Any projects to be undertaken as part of the RCWAP will follow the respective process for the prioritisation of operational and capital projects.

COMMUNITY AND OTHER CONSULTATION

In early 2020, Council officers commenced a citywide engagement strategy to inform the development of the RCWAP. There were two engagement phases throughout the project, with each building on and refining the previous. Direct engagement with Council officers occurred between September and October 2020. Engagement with the broader community occurred with the *Shape your Ipswich* online community engagement tool. *Shape your Ipswich* received 627 contributions from community members between March and April 2021. The project reached at least 10,000 community members, providing them with a direct opportunity to participate. Overall, the community was very supportive of Council's proposed direction and appreciated the opportunity to provide feedback. Attachment 2 provides the RCWAP Community Engagement report.

The community engagement included:

- A survey with detailed questions about current and future walking and cycling activities, barriers and preferences for recreational walkers, cyclists and non-walkers or non-cyclists (123 Ipswich residents completed the survey).
- An interactive 'Mark the Map' tool for respondents to leave a pin and a comment. Separate comments for a "walk" like, "walk" issues, "walk" new idea, "cycle" like, "cycle" issue and "cycle" new idea could be made (The 'Mark the Map' tool received 452 contributions).
- Quick Question tool where participants could leave their response to the question: What is the most important factor that would influence your decision to walk or cycle for recreation? (50 residents responded to this question).

Internal Engagement

The following areas of Council have been consulted in the scoping and development of the RCWAP and have no objection with the RCWAP content and proposed recommendations of this report:

Infrastructure and Environment Department:

- Infrastructure Strategy Branch
- Environment and Sustainability Branch

Coordination and Performance Department:

- Communication and Engagement Branch

Community, Cultural and Economic Development Department:

- Community and Cultural Services Branch
- Economic and Community Development Branch



Planning and Regulatory Services Department:

- City Design Branch
- Compliance Branch

CONCLUSION

The Recreational Cycling and Walking Action Plan is a priority action of the AIS2031. The AIS2031 has been identified as a catalyst project in Council's Ipswich iFuture Corporate Plan 2021-2026. The Recreational Cycling and Walking Action Plan will provide strategic direction for the activation, planning and delivery of recreational cycling and walking infrastructure for the City of Ipswich.

ATTACHMENTS AND CONFIDENTIAL BACKGROUND PAPERS

1.	Recreational Cycling and Walking Action Plan ↓ 
2.	Recreational Cycling and Walking Action Plan - Community Engagement Report ↓ 

Andrea Moser-Rienecker

SENIOR PLANNING OFFICER (OPEN SPACE RECREATION)

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Mary Torres

INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY AND PLANNING MANAGER

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Tony Dileo

MANAGER, INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY

I concur with the recommendations contained in this report.

Sean Madigan

GENERAL MANAGER - INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

“Together, we proudly enhance the quality of life for our community”

2021

City of Ipswich
**Recreational
Cycling
and Walking
Action Plan**



ipswich.qld.gov.au



Item 3 / Attachment 1.



CONTENTS

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	4
2.0 INTRODUCTION	5
2.1 What is recreational walking?	5
2.2 What is recreational cycling?	5
2.3 Recreational cycling and walking types	5
3.0 STRATEGIC DIRECTION	7
3.1 Document hierarchy	7
3.2 Vision	7
3.3 Objectives	8
4.0 METHODOLOGY	9
5.0 RESEARCH AND DATA	10
5.1 Literature review	10
5.2 Demographics: population profile, projections and social profile	12
5.3 Population projections, park provisions, accessibility	13
5.4 Current demand	18
5.5 Future demand	21
5.6 Community engagement	23
6.0 CYCLE AND WALKING NETWORK	27
6.1 Existing cycle and walking infrastructure	27
6.2 Prioritisation of cycle and walking planning and new infrastructure	32
7.0 ACTION PLAN	37
8.0 IMPLEMENTATION	44
8.1 Performance indicators and benchmarking	44
8.2 Monitoring and reporting	45
9.0 APPENDICES	46
9.1 Appendix A: literature analysis	46
9.2 Appendix B: community engagement	60
9.3 Appendix C: sensitivity analysis	61
9.4 Appendix D: references	70

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

The Recreational Cycling and Walking Action Plan (RCWAP) is an outcome of the Active Ipswich Strategy 2031 (AIS2031). Action Plans are essential in working towards the goals and objectives of strategies and are central to the identification of Ipswich City Council's operational and capital projects. Ipswich City Council developed the RCWAP as a commitment to increase participation in recreational cycling and walking to support health and wellbeing outcomes.

KEY FINDINGS FROM COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The community were directly engaged on Shape Your Ipswich – a survey and open comment tool. Shape your Ipswich received 627 contributions from community members between March and April 2021. Community members could provide feedback answering survey questions (123 participants), leave a pin and comment on an interactive mapping tool (456 contributions) or leave their response to the question: What is the most important factor that would influence your decision to walk or cycle for recreation? (50 contributions).

Walking Community

A review of the community engagement data indicates the following themes are of importance to the Ipswich walking community:

- More footpaths in residential areas
- More walking paths in parks or along a river
- Walking tracks in natural areas with attractive scenery
- A need for safety: from traffic, roaming dogs and crime
- Separation of walking pathways from traffic
- More shade and lighting along pathways

Cycling Community

The following themes are of importance to the Ipswich cycling community:

- More paths separated from traffic
- New designated cycling lanes on roads
- New/upgraded cycling paths in residential areas
- More and continuous cycling paths
- New/upgrades cycling trails and off-road tracks in natural areas with attractive scenery

Non-walkers and non-cyclists

- The following themes are of importance to these Ipswich non-walkers and non-cyclists:
- A need for safety: from traffic, roaming dogs and crime
- More lighting and visibility along pathways
- Attractive scenery and popularity of a place

Actions

Actions were developed and organised under the Aims and Objectives

Aim 1: Building a connected, sustainable, and safe recreational cycling and walking network.

- Create a connected, sustainable, and integrated network
- Provide comfortable and attractive walking routes
- Walking and cycling environments should adhere to the principles of inclusive design
- Provide quality cycling and walking infrastructure that is inviting to pass through or spend time in

Aim 2: Planning and developing supportive cycling and walking communities and growing a positive cycling and walking culture.

- Our strategic planning prepares us for the city's rapid growth and expansion of infrastructure networks
- Deliver educational walking and cycling programs and activities
- Seek, develop, and maintain partnerships that will promote, facilitate and support recreational walking and cycling in Ipswich
- Foster a culture of safe walking and cycling in Ipswich

Prioritisation

To inform council's prioritization in investment, a sensitivity analysis was undertaken to give an indication in which Statistical Area - levels 2 (SA2) the value for money for investment in walking and cycling infrastructure projects would be the highest. For this analysis, results from population growth predictions, the Analysis of Sport, Recreation and Physical Activity Levels and Trends report and the RCWAP survey were used to calculate a priority score for the need for improvements in walking and cycle facilities for each SA2.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

The City of Ipswich Local Government Area (LGA) and South East Queensland (SEQ) have sustained population growth for several decades and current population forecasts project this trend to continue until at least 2041. In 2021, the City of Ipswich was home to 246,090 residents. There is potential for the population of the LGA to more than double over the next two decades, reaching approximately 557,000¹. As a result, increased pressure is expected to be placed on existing public open space land, sport and recreation facilities, and programs and services supporting participation in sport, recreation, and physical activity. It is expected that the demand for walking and cycling infrastructure will grow in line with population increases.

Ipswich City Council has developed the RCWAP to establish the appropriate level of service required by the community over the next 10 years. By understanding the level of service required, the council can promote more effective planning and provide the evidence to support Federal and State grant funding applications for any required investment.

2.1 WHAT IS RECREATIONAL WALKING?

Recreational walking can simply be an unorganised meander around a local park or trail for relaxation or a daily program of several kilometres that is undertaken for health reasons. Organized non-competitive walking is extremely popular for the relaxation and exercises it offers. Walking for recreation or fitness differs from hiking by its shorter distances, less challenging settings, and the lack of need for specialised equipment.

Walking is the preferred exercise for a significant segment of the population of Ipswich.

Fitness walking is an ideal form of exercise for seniors and others who need to exercise but prefer a gentler means of doing so.

2.2 WHAT IS RECREATIONAL CYCLING?

There are many forms of recreational cycling. It can be an activity for the whole family to explore the neighbourhood for leisure. Or it can be an organised long-distance ride for exercise. Other forms of recreational cycling are bicycle touring for sightseeing or mountain biking.

The physical exercise gained from cycling is generally associated with an increase in health and well-being. Bikes are often used by people who want to improve their fitness and cardiovascular health.

2.3 RECREATIONAL CYCLING AND WALKING TYPES

Recreational walkers and bicycle riders enjoy walking and cycling activities such as jogging, running, trail biking and dog exercise for recreation and fitness. The peak time for recreational activities is at weekends, early morning and late afternoon/early evening. Participants prefer flat to moderate grades with a focus on support facilities along major routes (e.g. path lighting, drinking water, rest stops, seating). Desirable settings would be off-road paths with good scenic amenities and linked to recreational destinations. Circuits and loops are popular in residential neighbourhoods via the local road network.

1 Ipswich City Council Annual Report 2019-2020

Walking and cycling for fitness

Fitness walking or cycling refers to the type of walking/ cycling that produces health and fitness benefits. To be a fitness walker or cyclist, walks/rides should be briskly enough, long enough, and often enough to produce the desirable health and fitness benefits.

Bushwalkers and hikers

Bushwalking and hiking occur primarily on unsealed roads or tracks in natural environments. There is a range of skill levels – from novices to competitive hikers. A bushwalk might be a walk along a trail through urban parks or bushland near where you live, or it could be a full day walk to a national park or reserve. Participants undertake it for recreation and exercise.

Mountain bikers

Mountain biking is a sport of riding bicycles off-road, often over rough terrain, usually using specially designed mountain bikes. Mountain bikers ride on dedicated tracks with specific criteria. Hence mountain biking requires a separate action plan to be developed, and as a result, mountain biking is not within the scope of this Action Plan.

Trail or mountain running

Trail running combines running and, where there are steep gradients, hiking. Trail running normally takes place on good paths or tracks that are relatively easy to follow and does not necessarily involve the significant amounts of ascent or need for navigating skills.

Elderly and disabled persons

The elderly and disabled are mostly pedestrians using off-road paths for pleasure, fitness and potentially utility trips over relatively short distances close to home. They require good access to pleasant recreational circuits and community destinations (e.g. shops, medical facilities, public transport nodes.) Paths to have acceptable grades and widths, good surface quality, safe crossing points and support facilities (e.g. rest stops, shaded seating.) Special mobility walking aids and manual and powers wheelchairs require wide sealed paths with flat grades and firm, consistent surface, free of steps and obstructions, lipless kerbs and ramps, good lines of sight, tactile paving, audible warnings at crossings and handrails. It is expected that the use of wheelchairs and mobility scooters increases as the population ages.

Other wheeled recreation devices

Local paths will be used by a range of other non-motorised modes, such as parents with prams. Wheeled recreation devices (e.g. roller blades, skateboards, scooters) are becoming an increasingly popular mode of transport for school children.

School children

School children are typically an unsupervised and vulnerable group. These young pedestrians and cyclists of varying ages and skill levels prefer paths separated from traffic, in quiet local streets and with low traffic volumes. These groups are considered but are not a focus for the Recreational Cycling and Walking Action Plan. Specific treatments for these users have been considered as part of the Active Transport Action Plan.

Commuter and utility users

Commuter cyclists prefer direct and efficient routes and often cycle on main roads. Commuter pedestrians tend to travel much shorter distances to the same destinations using off-road paths. Utility cyclists and pedestrians also use the network for trips to shops, public transport nodes and community facilities. These groups are considered but are not a focus for the Recreational Cycling and Walking Action Plan. Specific treatments for these users have been considered as part of the iGO Active Transport Action Plan.

3.0 STRATEGIC DIRECTION

3.1. DOCUMENT HIERARCHY

The integrated planning and reporting framework guides corporate planning for Ipswich City Council. This framework identifies three stages for annual, medium-term and long-term plans to guide the council’s vision, aims and objectives. The Recreational Cycling and Walking Action Plan is an outcome of the Active Ipswich Strategy 2031. Action Plans are essential in working towards the goals and objectives of strategies and are central to the identification of operational and capital projects.

The Active Ipswich Strategy 2031

The Active Ipswich Strategy is council’s ten-year (2021 – 2031) strategy to improve health and wellbeing by creating a more active city. AIS2031 aims to improve participation in and to increase opportunities for physical activity in Ipswich. This strategy provides council with clear and focussed strategic direction, meaningful goals and targeted actions for the planning, management and provision of open space land, infrastructure and recreational services and programs in response to the growth and demands of Ipswich and its community.

iGO Active Transport Action Plan

The RCWAP builds upon the iGO Active Transport Action Plan 2018 (ATAP) by focusing on recreational walking and cycling in open space. The Active Transport Action Plan focuses on walking and cycling as the primary forms of active transport, recognising that through the provision of a network and infrastructure for these users, it will also provide for other forms of active transport.

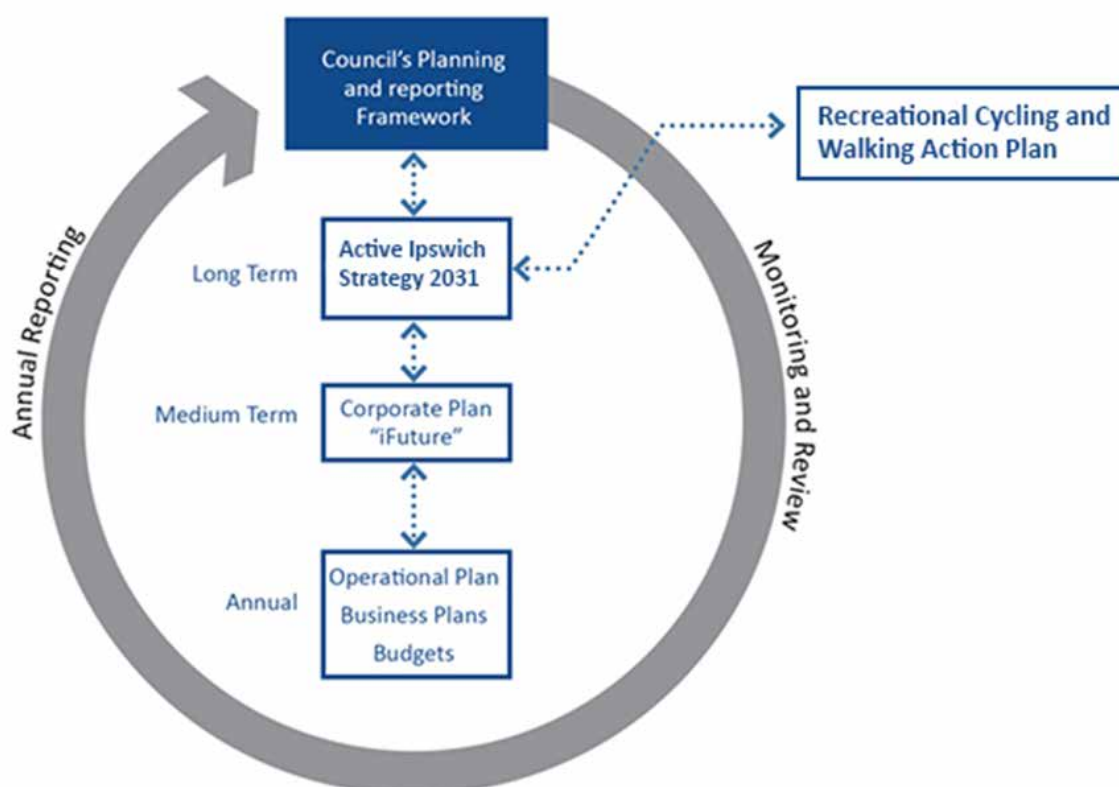
ATAP’s goals are to build a quality active transport network, develop supportive active transport communities and to grow an active transport culture. ATAP’s strategies are to:

- Adopt and implement a direct, safe and connected cycle network plan to and within destinations
- Improve pedestrian connectivity to and within activity centres, public transport hubs, schools and local shops.

3.2 VISION

Ipswich City Council is creating a connected, sustainable and safe recreational cycling and walking network where people embrace walking and cycling as part of their active recreation or relaxation time with family and loved ones. This network is planned to be comfortable and accessible and provides for healthy and liveable communities for the people of Ipswich.

Figure 1: The role of the RCWAP within council’s Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework



3.3 OBJECTIVES

Table 1: RCWAP objectives

1. AIM: BUILDING A CONNECTED, SUSTAINABLE AND SAFE RECREATIONAL CYCLING AND WALKING NETWORK		
	Objectives	
OBJECTIVES	Connected	Create a connected, sustainable and integrated network that supports and further builds onto the iGO Active Transport Action Plan to link destination hubs, recreational outdoor spaces and major centres. Provide choice within the cycling and walking network for different types of users to walk and cycle to parks and natural areas.
	Comfortable	Provide comfortable and attractive routes that have facilities to make cycling and walking easy and increase the usability of the network. Designated walking areas should allow unhindered movement by providing sufficient path widths and clear zones.
	Accessible	Walking and cycling environments should adhere to the principles of inclusive and universal design by ensuring that they are accessible to, and usable by, as many people as reasonably possible. Features such as paths, edges and nodes should be consistent and easy to understand for all to know intuitively how to navigate within a space.
	Enjoyable	Provide quality cycling and walking infrastructure that is inviting to pass through or spend time in, considering the user experience and requirements. The public realm should be safe to use at all times of the day and for people to feel safe to spend time in.
2. AIM: PLANNING AND DEVELOPING SUPPORTIVE CYCLING AND WALKING COMMUNITIES AND GROWING A POSITIVE CYCLING AND WALKING CULTURE		
	Objectives	
OBJECTIVES	Connected	Our strategic planning prepares us for the city's rapid growth and expansion of infrastructure networks. Planning is based on an evidence-based approach to ensure the delivery of cycling and walking infrastructure is meeting our growth.
	Comfortable	Deliver educational walking and cycling programs and activities that develop confidence, skills and encourage long-term behavioural change. Educate the community on how to use the walk and cycle network safely and how to respect those who use it. Encourage more children to walk and cycle to school in Ipswich.
	Accessible	Seek, develop and maintain partnerships that will promote, facilitate and support recreational walking and cycling in Ipswich. Ensure cycling and walking information and tools are easily accessible to the Ipswich community.
	Enjoyable	Foster a culture of safe walking and cycling in Ipswich through developing social connections via walking and cycling programs and the promotion of these networks. Foster a culture of safe walking and cycling in Ipswich through educational, promotional and behavioural change programs and activities. Promote increased walking and cycling to encourage behavioural and cultural change.

