

**ADVOCACY ADVISORY COMMITTEE NO. 2025(01)**

**8 MAY 2025**

**REPORT**

**COUNCILLORS' ATTENDANCE:**

Mayor Teresa Harding (Chairperson); Councillors Marnie Doyle, Pye Augustine, Jacob Madsen (Observer – via audio-link), Andrew Antoniolli (Observer) and David Martin (Observer)

**COUNCILLOR'S APOLOGIES:**

Councillor Jim Madden

**OFFICERS' ATTENDANCE:**

Sonia Cooper (Chief Executive Officer), Ben Pole (General Manager, Community and Cultural Development), Dan Heenan (Economic Development Manager), Kate Adams (Advocacy Lead), Seren McKenzie (General Manager, Asset and Infrastructure Services), Melissa Fitzgerald (Chief of Staff Office of the Mayor), Wade Wilson (Executive Services Manager)

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA**

Nil

**BUSINESS OUTSTANDING**

Nil

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE ADVOCACY ADVISORY COMMITTEE NO. 2024(03) OF 21 NOVEMBER 2024

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the minutes of the Advocacy Advisory Committee held on 21 November 2024 be confirmed.

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Councillor Pye Augustine arrived at the meeting at 2.06 pm.  
Councillor Jacob Madsen joined the meeting via audio-link at 2.10 pm.

## **OFFICERS' REPORTS**

### **2. 2025 FEDERAL ELECTION OUTCOMES**

This is a report providing a summary of the outcomes of the 2025 Federal Election, held on 3 May 2025.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- A. That the report be received, and its contents noted.
- B. That the Advocacy Advisory Committee discuss next steps for Council's advocacy program.

## **DISCUSSION**

The committee received an update and overview from Dan Heenan and Kate Adams on the 2025 Federal Election:

- It was noted that in the lead up to the Federal election the Mayor wrote to all candidates seeking their support for Council's advocacy priorities.
- Nineteen election commitments were made in the seat of Blair. Seven from ALP sitting member Shayne Neumann totalling \$216.9 million and 12 from LNP candidate Carl Mutzelburg totalling 221.695 million.
- Most notable commitment was \$200 million to upgrade the Amberley interchange from both ALP and LNP.
- Other election commitments were made for the upgrade to local sporting clubs and commitments to local community groups.

The committee discussed the steps that need to occur in relation to the Amberley Interchange project so that Council could build its advocacy around them. Following on from discussions the Mayor has already had with the Minister, it was recommended that it would be a good opportunity to write to the Minister and request a meeting in Ipswich.

The Economic Development Manager outlined the Question on Notice that was raised in Parliament by Jennifer Howard MP asking for an update in relation to funding for the second river crossing.

**Question on Notice****No. 257****Asked on 1 April 2025**

**MS J HOWARD** ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON B MICKELBERG)—

**QUESTION:**

With reference to the LNP's election commitment to deliver a Ipswich Second River Crossing Business Case—

Will the Minister advise if the government remains committed to the project, and if so (a) the total cost to deliver the Business Case, (b) what work has been undertaken by the Department of Transport and Main Roads thus far to progress the Business Case, (c) projected date the Business Case will be completed and provided to government and (d) projected date the Business Case will be publicly released?

**ANSWER:**

I thank the Member for the question.

The Crisafulli Government will honour all election commitments.

Scope, milestone dates, and release of the business case is at the discretion of the Ipswich City Council, as the leading authority in the delivery of the business case.

**ACTION**

That Council write to the new State Government requesting a meeting in Ipswich to discuss the Amberley interchange and the second river crossing.

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Councillor Andrew Antoniolli left the meeting at 2.28 pm.

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**3. NEXT MEETING**

To be advised

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**4. GENERAL DISCUSSION** (within the purpose and scope of the committee)**4. GENERAL DISCUSSION**

Mayor Harding advised that there will be three elections in 2028 and that she was keen to work out how to advocate in the lead up to and between these elections as well as revising what council's regionally significant projects are and expanding the list of locally significant projects.

In relation to the Advocacy Plan it was noted that this would be updated to include Councillor Doyle's Notice of Motion at the last council meeting regarding a Tartan Track.

The committee discussed the engagement of SAS group in the previous term and how they shared their insight on how they advocate and how to increase the chance of funding. From this, there were 5 principles that were presented:

- Common Purpose
- Coordinated Communications
- Unity of Voice
- Engaging all appropriate channels
- Systematic recordkeeping and follow up

It was agreed that in a typical calendar year council could prepare federal and state budget submissions and that the state also did a mid-year budget update where council could prepare a submission.

It was also agreed that council could undertake delegations to Canberra and Queensland Parliament as an annual activity.

#### **ACTIONS**

- A. That the Economic Development Manager and Advocacy Lead meet with each councillor individually to compile a list of locally significant projects and that these be collated and brought to a future Advocacy Advisory Committee for discussion.
- B. That as well as the federal and state budget submissions and delegations to Canberra and Queensland Parliament, relationships also be built and maintained.

#### **5. UPDATE IN RELATION TO REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS**

The committee discussed each of the Regionally Significant Projects listed on Council's Advocacy Web Page to ascertain the current status:

- Better Bus Network for Ipswich
- Ebenezer Regional Industrial Area
- Ipswich to Springfield Central Public Transport Corridor
- Waste and Circular Economy Transformation
- Critical and Enabling Infrastructure
- Ipswich Central Second River Crossing
- North Ipswich Sport and Entertainment Precinct

#### **ACTIONS**

Council webpage for all the Regionally Significant projects to be updated.

#### **Better Bus Network**

- The Economic Development Manager to follow up on the details of the three stages of the introduction to the new bus services in relation to what is funded and what is not and include school bus routes.

#### **Ebenezer Regional Industrial Area**

- Ebenezer Regional Industrial Area to remain as a regionally significant project.

#### **Ipswich to Springfield Central Public Transport Corridor**

- Ipswich to Springfield Central Public Transport Corridor to remain as a regionally significant project and Council to request a briefing from TMR on the planned routes for the I2S public transport corridor prior to the business case being finalised.
- This project to be included in the Mayor's letter to the Transport Minister requesting that he visit Ipswich.

#### **Waste and Circular Economy Transformation**

- The CEO to organise a review of the information to include the additional funding for the Material Recovery Facility and any funding for the resource recovery centres.
- In relation to the Waste and Circular Economy space, Council request the State Government for \$8 million as an ex-gratia payment for the payment of legal fees for waste recovery.
- The public health enquiry findings from parliament to be included.

#### **Critical and Enabling Infrastructure including Cunningham, Warrego and Centenary Highways as well as Ripley Valley PDA Infrastructure**

- Council to continue to lobby for funding from the State Government for the Amberley Interchange, following the Federal Government election commitment of \$200 million
- A briefing to be organised in relation to what is planned for the Centenary Highway Motorway/Augusta Parkway interchange and what this means
- Council to continue to follow up in relation to the Ripley Valley PDA Catalytic Infrastructure specifically the community centre/library/multi-purpose centre.

#### **Ipswich Central Second River Crossing**

- Council to continue to explore options for a second river crossing
- Information to be provided to councillors on what council holdings are around this project
- That opportunities be explored for TMR to be part of the project steering group for the Ipswich Central River Crossing

- The project to be included in the Mayor's letter to the Transport Minister following the recent Question on Notice in Queensland Parliament stating that Ipswich City Council is the lead authority for the business case.

#### **North Ipswich Sport and Entertainment Precinct**

- That an options paper be prepared for discussion outlining the 3 options for the Corporate Centre – High Performance Gym, Office Accommodation (Sports House/Hub) or remain as Function Room
- The advocacy website to be updated to include the next steps for this project
- That the map on the Advocacy website for the North Ipswich Sport and Entertainment Precinct be updated
- That the previous masterplans be provided to councillors for information

In the context of the Leveraging 2032 update it was proposed the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic opportunities be added to the Regionally Significant Projects list.

#### **6. UPDATE ON LOCALLY SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS**

The committee discussed locally significant projects and next steps.

##### **ACTION**

- That an update to councillors on Bell Street, Ipswich be organised

The following projects were proposed by Councillors to be added to the Locally Significant Project list:

- The clay courts at Leichhardt need to be repurposed
- John Street Rosewood drainage and flood resilience upgrades
- Tartan athletics track

##### **ACTION**

- That the Economic Development Manager liaise with the General Manager (Planning and Regulatory Services) to assist with the preparation of information to support councillors relating to the infrastructure funding gap and infrastructure charges.

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#### **PROCEDURAL MOTIONS AND FORMAL MATTERS**

The meeting commenced at 2.05 pm.

The meeting closed at 4.05 pm.

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