

Lake Macquarie City Active Transport Advisory Group Meeting No. 4

10 May 2018

Time was allowed between meetings for Council staff to develop the online survey for the group to inform the group's activities, for the group to complete the survey, and for Council staff to draft a program for workshopping at the next meeting.

The following was distributed to the group prior to this meeting:

Thank you all for completing the online survey. Your feedback has given us invaluable insight into how you would like to see the group progress.

Based on your feedback, we believe we have sufficient information to prepare a high level schedule of activities for the group, to discuss with you at the next meeting.

Future meetings will likely involve a mix of both strategy (future priorities) and looking at 'here and now' matters.

However, to prepare this schedule, we will need more time than originally anticipated before our next meeting.

Given the upcoming long weekend and school holidays, we therefore propose our next meeting occurs in early May.

Important note about the next meeting: Based on your feedback, we'd like to experiment with the format and location of future meetings, including where possible, site visits concerned with 'here and now' matters.

To pilot this idea, we will investigate whether the next meeting can be held at Redhead Surf Club, to get a first-hand look at a current top of mind issue for the local community. We will advise you via email whether we are able to book the Surf Club for the next meeting.

Agenda

Time	Activity
4.30pm to 5.30pm	Site visit
5.30 – 6pm	Refreshments
6 – 6.30pm	Report back on Redhead experience – note ATAG feedback will inform revised options paper Activity – in groups <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Which is your preferred option? Why? What are the benefits of one option over another?- Are there other options?- Reflecting on Redhead options: Are small quick wins (improve crossing point) better or higher quality solutions

(paths plus supporting infrastructure)?

- What questions do you have?

Plus Online survey – for in-between – Redhead ideas and other suggestions for activities around ATAG program schedule

(Next meeting – unpack Redhead and footpath decision-aid tool, criteria, etc.)

6.30pm – 7.30pm Objectives for next part of night

- Get on the same page about the proposed program – are we understanding/discussing the same things?
- Revise the program if need be

Note: For short term goal #2

It's more than just cycleways/shared paths e.g. parking, access, shade, water, amenities, promotion. Your preferences and expectations? More of latter or more path?

Activity 1: Group activities; butchers paper

- Have you had a chance to look at the proposed program?
- How did it make you feel? Lots of work? Achievable?
- What questions arose for you?

Room report back – record notes on mobile White board

Record of discussion

Site visit:

The Group walked from Redhead Bowling Club south along Steel Street and east along Beach Road, stopping to discuss the various options outlined in the “Beach Road, Redhead - Pedestrian Facilities Investigations” Map.

The group observed the behaviour of pedestrians utilising the area and discussed the opportunities and constraints of each option on site, before returning to the Bowling Club to summarise discussions.

The group principally agreed they were assessing the options based on a ‘pedestrian first’ focus.

The group expressed concern that short-term solutions may impact on the ability to secure funding for long-term solutions, as this provide an improvement in pedestrian safety and shift its level of priority against other locations in the local government area.

After consideration of the options, the Group:

- concluded the existing approved pedestrian refuge (option 1c(ii)) is not appropriate due to safety concerns
- recommended the removal of the bus bay in the south western corner of the Beach Rd and Allard St intersection – potentially using bollards in the short-term, with a view to formalise the closure long-term
- recommended the removal of the non-compliant kerb ramp at the south western intersection of Beach road and Alison Street

- recommended a zebra crossing at option 1a to the east of the Webb Park vehicle entrance to avoid pedestrians having to walk across the vehicular entrance on route to the beach
- recommended a crossing point over Freshwater Creek between Option 2a and 2b to provide a direct link from the shops and Webb Park towards Redhead Beach

Review of draft ATAG program

The group split into smaller groups as per the agenda. The table below provides a record of comments and responses.

Comment	Page ref	Response
Add "Connected Communities" to the values	1	Complete
Note that mobility and accessibility are the focus values for the group, but that all values will be taken into consideration.	1	Draft text has been added for comment
Add a new section explaining the purpose of the group.	2	Draft text has been added for comment
Remove "where possible" from the beginning of dot point 3	3	Removed
Add text noting goals will be pursued in consultation with Councillor portfolios	3, 4, 5	Draft text has been added for comment
Add Cooranbong to the list of projects under Short-term goal #2 and add a note that other projects may be investigated also	4	Draft text has been added for comment
Road blocks at Short-term Goal #2 should inform the development of Short-term Goal #1	3, 4	Noted
Group would like to see Short-term Goals #1 and #2 run concurrently	3, 4	Noted
Regarding dilemmas presented such as Redhead, the group would like documentation prepared before the meeting and options identified for consideration, to allow the group to focus on advising solutions		Noted

Next steps and potential agenda items for next meeting

Next meeting

Poll requested to select date.

Other news provided in-between meetings

Release of new plans

The State Government has released the following final plans relevant to our area:

- [NSW Future Transport 2056 Strategy](#)
- [Regional NSW Services and Infrastructure Plan](#)

These plans inform the *draft Greater Newcastle Transport Plan* and the *draft Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Plan*, also prepared by the State Government. When finalised, we will share with the group.

Fit NSW 2018

Council's Strategic Landuse Planner Tom Boyle and local Heart Foundation representative Deborah Moore recently attended [Fit NSW 2018](#), a free conference hosted by Active Living NSW.

Active Living NSW was established in April 2017 as a partnership between NSW Ministry of Health and the National Heart Foundation - NSW Division to support the physical activity and healthy built environment deliverables of the [NSW Healthy Eating and Active Living Strategy](#).

Should the conference presentations be made available online, we will inform the group.

Cycling Participation Phone Survey Underway

The Local Government Research Group, on behalf of Lake Macquarie City Council, are currently conducting a phone survey across the City and other Local Government Areas in Australia.

The aim of this survey is to gauge the number of people who ride bicycles, how often they ride, where they ride, age and gender. Additionally, the survey asks a series of attitudinal questions, which provide information on:

- Feelings of comfort while riding in the municipality,
- Change in cycling conditions over the past 12 months,
- Barriers to riding for different purposes (commuting, education, shopping, recreation and access to public transport), and
- Priorities for Council to consider in improving cycling conditions.

If you do receive a phone call, your participation is voluntary, however your answers will help us to better plan for the recreational and active transport needs of the community.

The research will contribute to current and future planning for cycling infrastructure in Lake Macquarie and assist with identifying opportunities to improve operational and Capital Works forecasts.

The findings will be shared with the Active Transport Advisory Group and community more widely.