

Local Government Transport Advisory Panel (LGTAP)

Notes of the meeting held 12 May 2008 at LGA House, Hutt Street Adelaide

Present: Mayor Brian Hurn, Barossa (Chair), Mayor Kym McHugh (Alexandrina), Wally Iasiello (Port Adelaide Enfield), Jane Gascoigne (LGGC), Mark Elford (DTEI), David Hitchcock (LGA)

Mayor Hurn welcomed everyone and outlined the purpose of the meeting which was to consider the 2008/09 Special Local Road funding submissions.

Mayor Brian Hurn, Mayor Kym Mc Hugh and Wally Iasiello noted that as members of Local Government they might have an interest in some of the road funding applications to be considered by LGTAP. The panel resolved to note the interest and determined that it was not prejudicial to the decision process based on program funding criteria. It was also noted that it would be a reasonable expectation that any representative Council member or employee fulfilling the role of panel member will have some element of interest as the LGTAP is the process where by Councils seek and are allocated road funding.

Applications for the Special Local Roads Program (SLRP) for 2008-09 closed on 28 April 2008. 52 submissions seeking funding of \$17.6 million from an expected available pool of \$10.7 million were received.

Mayor Hurn also outlined the following issues:

- Some Councils are submitting applications for the same road in different regional LGA submissions. It was thought that this was occurring where Councils have dual membership of some Regional LGA's. The LGTAP decided that only one application for any road will be considered and Councils must submit their funding applications to the "primary" region they are constituted to be a member of.
- A number of long term funding applications had been received with one seeking funding over 11 years. LGTAP decided that it is not appropriate to provide funding over such an extended time and where possible Councils will be encouraged to reduce funding requests to more appropriate time frames.
- Some regions had identified their priority funding weighting into Freight, Social and Tourism and LGTAP would need to consider this as previously Freight had been the predominate priority nominated.

Other items

Jane Gascoigne noted that Councils will need security of continuity in continuing projects and LGTAP should be clear up front on any conditions of funding.

Mayor Brian Hurn noted that the regional LGA's had become increasingly more professional in identifying their road priorities and this was assisting LGTAP considerations.

LGTAP generally discussed the identification of project costs included in submissions and that LGTAP existing policy is not to fund feasibility studies or concept design.

It was agreed that further work is required to develop guidelines for LGTAP and Councils on standard financial and project costs which could be included in the application details. This should particularly address the application of administration costs. David Hitchcock was requested to follow this up for consideration by the 2009/2010 financial year.

Further consideration will also need to be given on the application of Financial Sustainability concepts around capacity of Councils to maintain funding and maintenance of long term projects. Jane Gascoigne suggested that this might be achieved by finalising the "second half" or engineering component of the roads data base to assist with considering the funding applications. This component is not currently active within the data base process.

David Hitchcock was requested to submit a suitable application to the LGA Research and Development Scheme to effect this.

SLRP funding submission discussions

1. Kangaroo Island Council had submitted two long term projects and David Hitchcock was requested to approach them regarding the feasibility of consolidating their proposed funding contribution into one project over a shorter time frame.
2. Holdfast Bay- King Street Bridge. The LGTAP noted the Metropolitan Strategic Roads (MSR) Committee's comment indicating the importance of the King Street Bridge and the subsequent MSR committee thoughts that the magnitude of the funding was beyond the SLRP. LGTAP discussed this and formed the opinion that it was feasible to fund the project over a two year program if Council funding was increased to \$3 million over two years. This scenario would require postponement of some currently proposed new metropolitan projects. The LGTAP agreed that Mayor Brian Hurn seek feedback on this proposal from the MSR or the Metropolitan Local Government Group as appropriate prior to a final decision by LGTAP.
3. The Barossa Council- Moppa Road South. It was noted that an application had been submitted direct to LGTAP for supplementary funding of \$75,000 as a result of overspend of the project previously funded by the Auslink Strategic Regional program.
4. Greenwith Road. The LGTAP noted that the Council contribution indicated was less than the required 50%. David Hitchcock was requested to contact Tea Tree Gully to advise them that they will need to contribute \$225,000 before the application can receive consideration.
5. Adelaide Hills - Sturt Valley Road. The LGTAP noted that the Council contribution indicated was less than the required 50%. David Hitchcock was requested to contact Adelaide Hills to advise them that they will need to contribute \$247,000 before the application can receive consideration
6. The LGTAP noted the rather unusually low road data base scores for George Street, Norwood and Oakley Road/ McMurtrie Road, Onkaparinga. David Hitchcock was requested to ask the MSR Committee to recheck the data input.

LGTAP Policy and Guidelines document

It was noted that the policy and guidelines document should be altered to correctly identify composition of the representative membership .eg

- Mayor Kym McHugh as a member of the LGA State Executive Committee
- Mayor Brian Hurn as a member from a country Council with the required skills and experience; and
- Mr Wally Iasiello as a member from a metropolitan Council with the required skills and experience

The LGTAP then undertook discussion and deliberation on submissions received to determine suitability for recommendation to receive funding. Following these discussions members resolved to not establish final recommendations until matters identified above regarding SLRP submissions had been clarified. It was also resolved that a further meeting to determine final recommendations be held in June at a convenient date.