



CITY OF HOBART

AGENDA

Council Meeting

Open Portion

Monday, 14 October 2024

at 4.00 pm

Council Chamber, Town Hall

SUPPLEMENTARY ITEM

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 27. Collins Street Tactical Bicycle Infrastructure Trial - Contingency
Funding..... 3**

The Chief Executive Officer reports:

“That in accordance with the provisions of Part 2 Regulation 8(6) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, these supplementary matters are submitted for the consideration of the Committee.

Pursuant to Regulation 8(6), I report that:

- (a) information in relation to the matter was provided subsequent to the distribution of the agenda;
- (b) the matter is regarded as urgent; and
- (c) advice is provided pursuant to Section 65 of the Act.”

27. Collins Street Tactical Bicycle Infrastructure Trial - Contingency Funding
File Ref: F24/90339

Report of the Director City Enablers of 11 October 2024.

Delegation: Council

**REPORT TITLE: COLLINS STREET TACTICAL BICYCLE
INFRASTRUCTURE TRIAL - CONTINGENCY
FUNDING****REPORT PROVIDED BY:** Director City Enablers**1. Report Summary**

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the re-allocation of funds to complete the delivery of the Collins Street Tactical Bicycle Infrastructure Trial as endorsed by the Council at its meeting of 16 September 2024.
- 1.2. The need to provide an additional budgetary allocation to this project follows the decision of the State Government not to honour a grant that was previously awarded to the Council providing a co-funding contribution of \$170,000 towards progressing the trial.
- 1.3. The Council has allocated a contingency of approximately \$500,000 within our 2024-25 capital works budget to accommodate unexpected budget amendments that arise within the program. It is proposed to allocate \$170,000 from the contingency budget to cover the shortfall generated by this State Government decision.
- 1.4. It is necessary to consider a budget amendment for this project at the this Council meeting because works need to be progressed prior to the Council meeting on 11 November 2024 if the project is to be delivered on the current timeframe.

2. Key Issues

- 2.1. The Council at its meeting on 16 September 2024, decided to proceed with the Collins Street Tactical Bicycle Infrastructure Trial Project. The project relied on good faith advice that the State Government had agreed to an allocation of \$170,000 of funding as a half share of the total cost of the project. Since its decision on the project, the Council was advised via email from the Acting General Manager State Roads that the:

“execution of that deed is on hold pending Government consideration of the Collins Street tactical cycleway following concerns raised by the community”.

Subsequently the Minister for Transport made a public statement that *“the Tasmanian Government will not progress funding for the Hobart City Council’s Collins Street bike lanes”.*

- 2.2. In order to continue with implementing the Council’s decision to proceed with the trial it is necessary to seek an urgent deliberation to amend the budgetary allocation to account for the withdrawal of this funding. The total budget required to deliver the trial is \$340,000 with Council’s

contribution of \$170,000 already included within the 2024-25 approved Council budget. The Council provides an amount of approximately \$500,000 for contingencies across its capital works program and it is proposed to draw on this allocation to account for this short-fall.

3. Recommendation

That:

1. The Council note:

- (i) pursuant to part 2 of Regulation 8(6), advice from the State Government in relation to the Collins Street Tactical Bicycle Infrastructure Trial funding, was received subsequent to the distribution of the agenda.***
- (ii) the matter is considered urgent as works in respect of the Collins Street Tactical Bicycle Infrastructure Trial need to be carried out prior to the next ordinary Council meeting in order to accord with the Council decision of 16 September 2024.***
- (iii) advice, pursuant to Section 65 of the Local Government Act 1993, has been provided within this report.***

2. The Council agrees to re-allocate \$170,000 from the 2024-25 Capital Works Contingency Fund for the purpose of fully funding the Collins Street Tactical Bicycle Infrastructure Trial.

4. Background

4.1. The Council at its meeting of 16th September 2024:

1. *The Council endorse the tactical bicycle infrastructure and streetscape improvements trial for Collins Street from Molle Street to Murray Street for implementation in general accordance with the final design provided at Attachment A to item 11 of the Open Council Agenda of 16 September 2024.*
2. *An application be made to the Transport Commission requesting a change to the speed limit on Collins Street between Molle Street and Murray Street and Victoria Street between Collins Street and Harrington Street to 30km/h.*
3. *The Council note the Engagement Summary Report provided at Attachment D to item 11 of the Open Council Agenda of 16 September 2024.*
4. *Ongoing monitoring and evaluation be undertaken at 1 month, 3 months and 12 months intervals post-installation, and updates provided to Elected Members via the Elected Member Bulletin.*
5. *A report be provided to the Council on the outcomes of the trial after 24 months of the installation of the bicycle infrastructure.*

4.2. The Council had sought funding from the State Government under its Better Active Transport for Greater Hobart grant program Stage 2 to undertake the trial. Officers had been advised that the funding was available under this program and had advised the Council accordingly. The Council has subsequently been advised that the State Government will not proceed with this funding due to concerns raised by stakeholders.

4.3. The funding request from the State Government was to co-fund the proposed design of the Collins Street tactical bicycle lane and associated outdoor dining and seating improvements in 2023.

4.4. The funding request was for \$170,000 to be matched by the Council's 2024-25 financial year budgetary allocation of \$170,000 providing an overall allocation of \$340,000 for the project.

4.5. To continue to progress the implementation of this project consistent with the Council's decision, it is necessary to allocate additional funds to make up the shortfall created by the State Government's recent decision.

4.6. The Council allocated approximately \$500,000 within its 2024-25 Capital Budget for contingencies and to fully fund the trial, it would be necessary for additional funds to be allocated from this Capital Works Contingency Fund.

5. Legal, Risk and Legislative Considerations

- 5.1. Changes to budget allocations for the 2024-25 financial year of this nature necessitates the authorisation of the Council.

6. Hobart: A Community Vision For Our Island Capital

- 6.1. The project supports Pillar 5: Movement and Connectivity of the Community Vision.

7. Capital City Strategic Plan

- 7.1. The key strategic outcome of the Capital City Strategic Plan supported by the project is:

Pillar 5. Movement and Connectivity

Outcome 5.1 An accessible and connected city environment helps maintain Hobart's pace of life.

Outcome 5.2 Hobart has effective and environmentally sustainable transport systems.

- 7.2. The project also supports the following pillars:

Pillar 1. Sense of Place

Pillar 4. City Economies

8. Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

- 8.1. Collins Street is identified in the Greater Hobart Cycling Plan (2021) as a key route for All Ages and Abilities. This plan has been endorsed by the City of Hobart and the State Government as part of the City Deal.

9. Financial Viability

- 9.1. Funding Source and Impact on Current Year Operating Result

- 9.1.1. There are sufficient funds within the Capital Works Contingency Fund to cover the additional funding of \$170,000 that is required for the project. This allocation will have no impact on the City's Current Year Operating Result.

- 9.2. Impact on Future Years' Financial Result

- 9.2.1. There is no impact on the City's Future Years' Financial Result from the additional funding allocation from the Capital Works Contingency Fund.

- 9.3. Asset Related Implications

- 9.3.1. There are no additional asset related implications as a result of the funding allocation.

10. Community Engagement

- 10.1. Extensive community and State Government engagement was conducted in the development of this project which was outlined within the officer report on this matter to the 16 September 2024 Council meeting.

11. Communications Strategy

- 11.1. The Council may wish to release a statement as to the outcome of this matter noting the State Government's public statements concerning its change in position of co-funding the project.

12. Innovation and Continuous Improvement

- 12.1. This project will be the first of its kind in a Tasmanian City CBD. Tactical delivery of bicycle infrastructure has been implemented in many Australian cities, particularly following the 2019 COVID epidemic and resulting opportunities for changing travel behaviour and use of city space.
- 12.2. The project includes ongoing monitoring and evaluation to inform modifications and improvements to the design as required throughout the life of the project.

13. Collaboration

- 13.1. This project and the associated funding were undertaken in close collaboration with relevant State Government agencies. This collaboration would appear to be on hold given the State Governments decision.

As signatory to this report, I certify that, pursuant to Section 55(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, I hold no interest, as referred to in Section 49 of the Local Government Act 1993, in matters contained in this report.



Michael Reynolds
DIRECTOR CITY ENABLERS

Date: 11 October 2024
File Reference: F24/90339