

ITEM 9.4.2 - CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE - 2023 NATIONAL LOCAL ROADS TRANSPORT & INFRASTRUCTURE CONGRESS

File Ref: N61559
Attachment: Provisional Program
Responsible Officer: Gary Clark
Chief Executive Officer
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Executive Officer
Proposed Meeting Date: 25 July 2023

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to recommend the attendance of a Councillor at the 2023 National Local Roads, Transport & Infrastructure Congress. The event is scheduled to be held in Canberra from 6-7 September 2023.

BACKGROUND

Organised by the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), the National Local Roads, Transport & Infrastructure Congress is held annually. Crs Handasyde and Bell attended the conference in Albany in 2017.

EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

No external consultation has occurred in relation to this report.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

There are no statutory implications for this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of early registration for the two-day conference is \$895.00 (early bird price to 4 August 2023), which covers the Welcome Reception, all conference sessions (morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea) and the Congress Dinner on Wednesday 6 September.

Flights, accommodation, transport and meal costs for attendance at the Congress are estimated to be in the vicinity of \$3,000.00, with costs to be charged to account Members of Council – Councillor Conferences, Training and Accommodation.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Budget item 2040104 (Members Training & Development) and 2040109 (Members Travel & Accommodation) may be used for this purpose. The combined budget for this being \$33,000.00, of which estimates of \$18,395.00 have been committed to-date.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Council Policy CE/CS/1 – Elected Members Expenses to be Reimbursed, states that *'Where conference attendance is authorised by the Council, all conference attendance costs will be paid/reimbursed.'*

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal implications for this report.

ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no asset management implications as no assets are being created or acquired.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The Shire of Plantagenet Corporate Business Plan 2022/23 – 2025/26 provides at Outcome 4.1 (Shire Governance) the following:

Strategy 4.1.2.1:

‘Councillor training is prioritised and new candidates actively encouraged.’

Accordingly, the recommended outcome for this report aligns with the Strategic Corporate Business Plan.

STRATEGIC RISK IMPLICATIONS

Strategic risk implications for this report are considered low.

REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS

The Southern Link Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils’ (VROC) Strategic Directions (2021-2024) provides under the heading of Regional Economic Development the following:

Strategy R2:

‘Collaborate on safe and efficient road networks’.

And further at Action 3:

‘Work collaboratively through the Regional Road Group to upgrade significant local roads that join Shires.’

OFFICER COMMENT

The theme of this year’s Congress is “Building Communities that are safer, stronger, smarter”. The content will be centred on practical takeaways, with successful council projects from around the country showcased, as well as opportunities to hear from leading experts across the key areas of roads, transport and related infrastructure, including community infrastructure. Interact with policy and grant program leads from federal government agencies and have your questions answered; and learn about the latest trends and developments in road safety, circular economy, decarbonising infrastructure builds, telecommunications, and technology.

Local roads funding, heavy vehicle access, road safety and affordable housing will be covered, but will also include a broader focus on community infrastructure including waste and recycling, disaster mitigation, and renewable energy.

Importantly, this year’s Congress will be held in Canberra during a Parliamentary sitting week, providing an opportunity to engage with federal members and other key decision makers.

Cr Handasyde is the Chair of the Great Southern Regional Road Group, with Cr Oldfield being the Council's representative on the Regional Road Group Committee. Cr Pavlovich is the deputy member of the Regional Road Group Committee, State Councillor and Chair of the WALGA Infrastructure team.

Although we have had no delegates attend this conference since 2017, feedback from consistent attendance previously has always been very positive.

The Acting Manager Works and Services intends to seek authority from the Chief Executive Officer to attend this conference.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That:

- 1. Approval be granted for Cr ... to attend the 2023 National Local Roads, Transport and Infrastructure Congress in Canberra from 6 -7 September 2023.**
- 2. All costs including flights, accommodation, transport, meals and registration costs be met from the account Members Training and Development and Members Travel and Accommodation accounts pursuant to Council Policy CE/CS/1 – Elected Members Expenses to be Reimbursed.**

Council

CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE – 2023 NATIONAL
LOCAL ROADS TRANSPORT & INFRASTRUCTURE
CONGRESS

Congress Program

Meeting Date: 25 July 2023

Number of Pages: 4

2023 National Local Roads, Transport & Infrastructure Congress - 6-7 September 2023

PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

Building Communities that are Safer, Stronger, Smarter

Event Time - (UTC+10:00)

Tuesday, September 5, 2023

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1:00 PM - 4:30 PM	Potential Technical Tour (TBA)
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Registration Desk Opens
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Welcome Reception & Exhibition Opening

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	Registration Arrival Tea and Coffee
9:00 AM - 9:10 AM	Opening Ceremony Welcome to Country
9:10 AM - 9:40 AM	Minister for Local Government opening address (invited)
9:40 AM - 10:00 AM	ALGA President Opening Address
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Wednesday Morning Tea
10:30 AM - 11:15 AM	Keynote: Towards a sustainable road funding model for local government Natasha Bradshaw, Transport and Cities Program, Grattan Institute
11:15 AM - 12:00 PM	Panel: Roads, transport and infrastructure for local governments in a rapidly changing world

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Wednesday Lunch		
1:00 PM - 1:45 PM	Keynote: Automated heavy vehicle access - certainty and sustainability Simon Buxton, Manager, Heavy Vehicle Access, Department of State Growth, Tasmania		
1:45 PM - 2:30 PM	Panel: Preparing for automated access - data collection, infrastructure assessments and telematics John Gordon, Manager, Strategic Development, Transport Certification Australia Steve Verity, Principal Advisor, Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA) Rohit Srivastava, Director, Infrastructure, Berrigan Shire Council		
2:30 PM - 3:00 PM	Wednesday Afternoon Tea		
3:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Session 1: Stronger communities - Managing local government infrastructure with increasing natural disasters	Session 2 - Smarter communities - How can AI improve liveability? Ben Rippingale, ANZ Business Lead , Vivacity Labs Australia & New Zealand	Session 3: Safer communities - local government innovations in active transport Dr Ben Beck, Head of Sustainable Mobility and Safety Research, School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine (SPHPM), Monash University
4:00 PM - 4:45 PM	NTRO: Safer, sustainable, resilient transport assets through data driven solutions		
4:45 PM - 5:00 PM	ALGA President Closing Remarks		
6:30 PM - 10:30 PM	Congress Dinner		

Thursday, September 7, 2023

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8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	Registration Arrival Tea & Coffee		
9:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Shadow Minister's Address Senator Bridget McKenzie, Shadow Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development		
9:30 AM - 10:15 AM	Update on Federal Government infrastructure policy and programs		
10:15 AM - 10:45 AM	Thursday Morning Tea		
10:45 AM - 11:30 AM	Panel: Infrastructure decarbonisation and renewable energy		
11:30 AM - 12:15 PM	Keynote: Developments in waste and recycling		
12:15 PM - 1:15 PM	Thursday Lunch		
1:15 PM - 2:15 PM	Session 1: Stronger communities - Delivering affordable housing	Session 2: Smarter communities - Deploying renewable energy and emissions reduction	Session 3: Safer communities - Telecommunications infrastructure
2:15 PM - 3:00 PM	Keynote: Practical solutions for improving road safety on local roads Dr Ian Faulks, Partner, Safety and Policy Analysis International		
3:00 PM - 3:30 PM	Thursday Afternoon Tea		
3:30 PM - 4:15 PM	Panel: Building road safety into precincts and road design Dr Ian Faulks, Partner, Safety and Policy Analysis International Tracey Norberg, Road Safety & Traffic Officer, Goulburn Mulwaree Council Dr Ben Beck, Head of Sustainable Mobility and Safety Research, School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine (SPHPM), Monash University		
4:15 PM - 4:30 PM	Closing comments and wrap up		

The program committee can change the program without notice.