

**OFFICE OF THE
INTERIM ADMINISTRATOR**
City of Logan

Please Quote File: 1037350-1
Document Reference: 13212215

10 December 2019


Hon Josh Frydenberg MP
Treasurer
Member for Kooyong
PO Box 6022
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Treasurer,

LOGAN CITY COUNCIL 2020-21 FEDERAL BUDGET SUBMISSION

Logan City Council welcomes the opportunity to provide comment ahead of the 2020-21 Federal Budget. Council supports the Federal Government's approach of planning for a stronger economy and a better future for all Australians.

Most recently we would like to acknowledge the Federal Government's stimulus package for Queensland announced 20 November 2019, committing funding for critical infrastructure in the City of Logan. Specifically \$50 million towards the relocation of Loganlea Train Station and \$10 million to progress the business case for passenger rail from Salisbury to Beaudesert.

We also acknowledge the Federal Government's commitment to the ongoing South East Queensland (SEQ) City Deals negotiations, which, when finalised, will deliver further transformational infrastructure for the region.

The City of Logan has the eighth largest population of any local government in Australia and is experiencing exceptional growth. While this presents opportunities, it also leads to challenges in ensuring infrastructure keeps pace with demand. Below, several infrastructure projects are highlighted for consideration. These projects will be catalytic and transformative for both the City of Logan and the wider SEQ region with direct flow-on impacts to surrounding local government areas like Brisbane and Scenic Rim.

In addition to these infrastructure projects, Council would also like to highlight the need for additional funding for drug and alcohol treatment support services, an issue that has been most recently highlighted to Council by the Government's proposal to drug test welfare recipients.

City Deals infrastructure

Mt Lindesay Highway upgrades

The Mt Lindesay Highway is crucial to regional economic growth in SEQ and, more widely, Queensland. The north-south link connects key activity centres and employment nodes, including Acacia Ridge, Browns Plains, Jimboomba, Yarrabilba and Greater Flagstone, as well as connecting back into Brisbane (connections with the Logan Motorway and the Ipswich and Gateway Motorways via the Logan Motorway).

LOGAN CITY COUNCIL
150 Wembley Road, Logan Central QLD 4114
PO Box 3226 Logan City DC QLD 4114
ABN 21 527 796 435

Council Enquiries: **07 3412 3412** Email: council@logan.qld.gov.au www.logan.qld.gov.au

INNOVATIVE, DYNAMIC, CITY OF THE FUTURE



In close proximity to the Mt Lindesay Highway is the Bromelton State Development Area, an emerging intermodal precinct of regional, state and national significance. Future upgrades are crucial to improving the efficiency and productivity of the national freight industry.

Connecting Infrastructure is a key domain of the *SEQ City Deal Proposition (Transforming SEQ)*, with a strategic roads upgrade package identified as an opportunity for investment. The Mt Lindesay Highway meets the requirements for this opportunity, which calls for investments in the road network to reduce congestion, enhance productivity and safety, and enable public and active transport solutions.

Upgrades to the Mt Lindesay Highway are crucial to future-proof this important connectivity route, which will improve safety and unlock benefits for residents and the city. Council acknowledges the \$30 million allocated in the last budget for the highway from the Urban Congestion Fund, along with the \$5m for the North Maclean project upgrade (\$16m total contribution), which is due for completion by the end of 2019.

However, it is noted that the age of the Mt Lindesay Highway and land development that has occurred over time has resulted in a needs-based reactive approach to upgrading individual intersections. Upgrades to the highway have not focused on a holistic approach, with upgrades to one section or an intersection in isolation at any one time.

Council requests that as part of City Deal negotiations, the Mt Lindesay Highway is recognised as a national highway with \$10 million in funding committed for a business case that considers an end-to-end solution and priority funding to deliver on solutions posed in the business case. A piecemeal approach is unlikely to address the most pressing need of ensuring that this important transport route remains viable for freight, residents and visitors as the population in this region expands rapidly.

South East Busway extension to Loganholme

The Pacific Motorway (M1) is ranked as among the busiest and most critical transport corridors in Australia for freight, public transport and private commuter travel. Upgrading the M1 is essential to managing ongoing growth pressures. It forms part of a vital business corridor that is critical to the future economic prosperity of the region and Queensland more broadly.

In particular, the 16 km section of the M1 from the Gateway Motorway to the Logan Motorway is significantly affected by traffic congestion. Current infrastructure constraints are limiting the future achievement of economic growth, contributing to lost productivity and reducing economic competitiveness.

An integrated transport solution is key to addressing the congestion issues along this constrained corridor. Council is calling for the South East Busway to be extended south of Springwood to Loganholme to provide more sustainable connections to employment areas for communities in SEQ. The SEQ City Deal provides an ideal opportunity to fund this important piece of regional infrastructure.

The busway currently finishes at Eight Mile Plains, with the upcoming Pacific Motorway (M1): Eight Mile Plains to Daisy Hill Upgrade (construction to start in 2020) set to extend the busway further south to Springwood. The next stage of M1 upgrades, Daisy Hill to Logan Motorway, is in the planning phase with the business case expected to be completed by the end of 2021. Council believes it is imperative that this planning include a busway extension to Loganholme and that funding should be locked in for construction.

This will help stimulate economic growth opportunities in Springwood and Loganholme, supporting these activity centres as they emerge as major employment, business and community hubs. Such improvements to the road and bus networks in the region are likely to contribute to travel time savings for residents and people travelling through the region. Further planning and scoping is required to ensure that these projects remain a top priority for State and Federal Government.

Council requests the Federal Government advocate to include extension of the South East Busway from Springwood to Loganholme into business case planning for the upcoming Pacific Motorway (M1): Daisy Hill to Logan Motorway project, with funding for construction to be considered as part of the SEQ City Deal.

Drug and alcohol addiction treatment

As you are aware, the City of Logan is proposed to be one of three trial sites to drug test welfare recipients through the *Social Services Legislation Amendment (Drug Testing Trial) Bill 2019*, which is again before the Senate. Since Logan was named as a potential trial site in 2017, we have closely examined the issue of drug and alcohol addiction in our city in partnership with the health and community sector. By doing so, we have identified there are major gaps in drug and alcohol addiction services in the City.

Council has worked hard to proactively seek solutions to the evident gaps in these services. Service scans, including that undertaken by the Brisbane South PHN through its Alcohol and Other Drug Service Mapping, identifies there are significant issues locally with sector fragmentation, and that there is a need to reduce stigma and discrimination of people with challenges in order to address this growing issue in the community.

Funding is a significant inhibitor to addressing these problems. Council is seeking an increase in Federal funding for support services, notwithstanding that the Drug Testing Trial Bill is not supported by Council. Greater access to support services through increased funding would assist in meeting current unmet demand and aligns with the Federal Government's own objectives for rehabilitation and improved employment opportunities for vulnerable people.

These issues are complex, and combating drug addiction requires a collaborative approach across all levels of government, medical practitioners, other organisations in this sector and the community. Council's position remains that the City of Logan should be suspended as a trial site and government funding should be targeted at treatment services.

Council requests the Federal Government, in consultation with local communities and medical professionals, funds additional drug and alcohol treatment support services in areas identified as high-need, irrespective of whether the drug testing trials are passed.

Council remains committed to continuing to working with the Federal Government to deliver the best outcomes for our community and adequate funding for essential infrastructure is critical to this. Should you wish to discuss any matter further please do not hesitate to contact me on (07) 3412 5218 or via tamaraoshea@logan.qld.gov.au.

Sincerely,



Tamara O'Shea

Interim Administrator, Logan City Council

