

RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Julie Leenhouders
Seconded: Cr Liz Guidera

That the Great Southern Country Zone NOTES the Status Report dated October 2022, as detailed in Attachment No.2.

CARRIED

7. ZONE BUSINESS

7.1. ZONE REPORTS

7.1.1. Zone Financial Report

By Lyn Fogg, Zone Executive Officer

Nil report provided as the Zone Bank Account details have not yet been transferred to WALGA Executive.

A report will be prepared for the next meeting.

NOTED

7.1.2. Zone Chairperson's Report

Report submitted by Zone Chair, President, Cr Chris Pavlovich

[Attachment No. 3](#) Zone President's Report October 2022.

NOTED

7.1.3. Great Southern Zone Roads Committee

By Cr Len Handasyde (Shire of Plantagenet), Chair

Membership: Cr Mark Paganoni, Cr Kevin Gale, Cr George Pollard, Cr Scott Crosby, Cr Russel Thomson, Cr Dale Douglas, Simon Lyas (Great Southern RDA) and Cr Len Handasyde as Chair of the Great Southern Regional Roads Group.

Committee Terms of Reference: *(includes Heavy Haulage matters as per GSCZ:26/08/2022)*

1. To investigate the current road infrastructure right across the networks (State, Regional Road Group roads and other local roads) as to their fit for purpose from a freight task and road safety and efficiency perspective both now and in the next 20 years.
 - Reviewing the impact and compliance of AMMS concessional loading on the Local Government Road Network; and
 - The compliance and implication of RAV access to the Local Government Road network and effectiveness in the Local Government CA07 conditions.
2. Once the data is known, make recommendations to the Great Southern Zone of WALGA in order for them to advocate and seek funding to remedy the shortfalls.
3. Co-opt members as required to fulfil the above task as there will be outside technical expertise required from time to time.
4. Report progress of sub-committee to the Great Southern Zone of WALGA at each of its meetings.
5. Finalise a report for publishing prior to the end of 2023-24 financial year.
6. Group to cease operations on 30 June 2024.

Great Southern Roads Committee Report

A meeting of this committee was held last Friday 21 October in Tambellup. Committee members were on hand with MRWA's Brad Lenton, and the GSDC's Pippa Hepburn along with Juliet Grist online from Rural and Regional Economics.

Juliet Grist presented her involvement with the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network (WSFN) detailing how data was collected and made sense of. She fielded questions after her presentation and is available to work for us in the initial stages should we choose to utilize her services and firsthand knowledge of the WSFN.

RDA Great Southern was represented by Andrus Budrikis the Chair and he and RGAGS are supportive of this study and are likely to co-fund a portion of it.

The GSDC was represented by Pippa Hepburn who indicated that they could be involved with working with the group to investigate funding pathways going forward.

MRWA's Brad Lenton supported the groups objectives and suggested that the list of roads be narrowed down to focus on routes with freight as importance. He suggested that the construction standards used in the Wheatbelt region be mirrored for consistency across boundaries.

He advised that the majority of roads in the great southern are rated RAV 7, and that there is a potential increase in length of vehicles in this classification to 42m under the PBS.

Priority Roads: It was agreed that this list be reviewed to ensure there are no double ups and that the data collected informs the final list. Mapping will be used also to inform the list.

The following steps to be taken from here –

- Update the list of roads and mapping, the group to agree on the final list
- Collection of data from Shires, up to 5 years of data if available
- Determine who to send the data to
- Request financial contributions/commitment from Shires

To that end a motion was put and carried by the Great Southern Roads Committee:

MOTION

Moved Cr Crosby, seconded Cr Gale that WALGA Great Southern Zone Shires be requested to each make a contribution of \$4,000 to the Great Southern Road Committee as initial seed funding to begin preliminary work for data collation and analysis; and that a formal request be made to Regional Development Australia Great Southern for a contribution of \$10,000.

CARRIED

This item could possibly be considered as a late item at the Zone meeting on 28 October 2022.

The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Friday, 9 December in Tambellup.

Cr Handasyde advised that the motion from the GSWALGA meeting to read:

“That WALGA Great Southern Zone Shires be requested to each make a contribution of \$4,000 as initial seed funding to begin preliminary work for road data collation and analysis. Further a formal request be made to Regional Development Australia Great Southern for a contribution of \$10,000. Further a request be made to the Great Southern Development Commission for a contribution of \$4,000.”

MOTION

Moved: Cr Scott Crosby
Seconded: Cr Kevin Gale

That the Great Southern Roads Report be received and the \$4000.00 per Zone Local Government funding request be forwarded to all Local Governments for their consideration and that a formal request be made to the Great Southern Development Commission as well as RDA Great Southern.

CARRIED

7.2. ZONE PRIORITY STRATEGIC ISSUES

Action (GSCZ 24/06/2022): WALGA to gather information (referring to items 7.3.1 and 7.3.2) and required key outcomes from Zone Councils on Housing and Digital Connectivity, and then create a Zone proposal to take to State and Federal Governments. Zone Councils to liaise with Lyn Fogg at WALGA.

ZONE EXECUTIVE OFFICER COMMENT:

Zone Member responses on Strategic Priorities of Housing, Reliable Digital Connectivity / Telecommunications and Jobs and Investment have been received from only four Local Governments as detailed below under Item 7.2.1, 7.2.2 and 7.2.3.

7.2.1. Housing

Issues identified at the Zone meeting held 24 June 2022:

- Availability of land. Market failure. Most Zone Local Governments have residential property 'shovel-ready' for subdivision and development, but the increasing cost of headworks is a barrier for developers.
- Advocate for lower deposits for bank loans on residential housing outside the metro area.
- Review of Planning Act to see if it is appropriate for regional areas and amend it to cut out any barriers to building, e.g., building codes changed to allow more innovative and sustainable construction methods.
- Problem with builders not being able to hire enough staff to undertake building projects.
- Current difficulty sourcing building materials.
- State Government requires more GROH housing in the region.
- Job, House, and Land packages.
- Carbon reduction – stand-alone sustainable housing developments for communities. Matter for WA Planning Commission.

Action (GSCZ 24/06/2022): Each Zone council to discuss and prioritise key outcomes to be achieved to increase housing in regional areas. Quantify the housing needs of each community.

Action (GSCZ 26/08/2022): If Local Governments could respond by 21 October 2022, so that this issue can be considered at the 28 October 2022 meeting.

ZONE EXECUTIVE OFFICER COMMENT:

The following Zone Member Local Governments provided a response as at the October 2022 Zone Meeting:

- Shire of Denmark
- Shire of Gnowangerup