

Subject: LMM 23/02/2021 - City of Newcastle Budget Submissions 2021-2022

MOTION

That City of Newcastle:

Part A

1. Notes that the NSW and Federal Government's are currently calling for submissions for their 2021-2022 Budget's, with an emphasis on shovel-ready, economic stimulus projects to assist in the recovery from the COVID-19 global pandemic;
2. Prepares detailed submissions to the NSW and Federal Government's, requesting funding for the delivery of Catalyst Areas for Greater Newcastle Projects; delivery of infrastructure projects identified on the Infrastructure Australia Priority List, City of Newcastle identified large-scale priority infrastructure projects; and Local priority infrastructure projects, which have also been endorsed by the City of Newcastle COVID-19 Taskforce;
3. Requests the NSW and Federal Government's provide funding to deliver the projects associated with Catalyst areas for Greater Newcastle, as identified in the Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Plan 2036 (**Attachment A**);
4. Advocates to the NSW and Federal Government for funding for the delivery of the following large-scale priority infrastructure projects:
 - Newcastle Art Gallery redevelopment
 - Coastal Management Planning and Erosion Management, especially at Stockton Beach
 - Flood mitigation at Wallsend
 - Newcastle Airport upgrade
 - Port of Newcastle Diversification
 - Hunter Park (Broadmeadow Sports and Entertainment Precinct)
 - Greater Newcastle Light Rail Expansion
 - Lower Hunter Freight Corridor
 - Affordable housing initiatives
 - Metropolitan wide active transport (walking & cycling) improvements
 - John Hunter Hospital campus upgrades
 - Local Sporting Amenity Upgrades
 - Local Playground upgrades, particularly for disability inclusion
 - Ferry Terminal at Wickham
 - Pensioner Rate Rebates
 - University of Newcastle STEMM Regional Transformation Hub
5. Presents a number of additional large-scale local infrastructure projects that City of Newcastle have been actively seeking grant funding support for, but are yet to receive support from the NSW or Federal Government including:
 - Summerhill Waste Management Centre – Organics Processing Facility
 - Richmond Vale Rail Trail
 - Newcastle Beach Community Facility (Stage 2 Newcastle Beach – Bathers Way)

- Junction to Merewether Cycleway
 - Newcastle West Bi-directional Cycleway – West End State 2, Phase 1
 - Newcastle East End Streetscape Upgrades and Cycleway – Stage 1, Phase 1
 - Newcastle West End Public Domain and Streetscape Plans
 - Local Centres Program – including Wallsend, Shortland and Stockton Local Centre upgrades
6. Notes that the Infrastructure Australia (IA) Priority List for 2021 is released this Friday 26 February. IA is the nation's independent infrastructure advisor, providing research and advice to governments, industry and the community on the infrastructure investments and reforms that will benefit all Australians. The IA Priority List is the authoritative guide to the priority infrastructure investments Australia needs to secure a sustainable and prosperous future.
7. Requests that Newcastle-based projects identified on the Infrastructure Australia priority list be funded as a matter of priority, noting their significance for the national economic recovery.
8. Writes to the Prime Minister, the Hon. Scott Morrison MP; Treasurer, the Hon. Josh Frydenberg MP; Senator Hollie Hughes, Senator for NSW; NSW Premier, the Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP; NSW Treasurer, the Hon. Dominic Perrottet MP, Parliamentary Secretary for the Hunter, the Hon Taylor Martin MLC, seeking their support for these important projects aimed at creating and retaining local jobs, and stimulating the local and broader economy.

BACKGROUND

The City of Newcastle has consistently advocated for funding to deliver catalytic, large scale and local infrastructure projects aimed at improving the lives of all Novocastrians.

In 2021, this advocacy could not be more important.

The latest economic data indicates that our population is growing significantly faster than before COVID-19, while unemployment remains above pre-COVID-19 levels.

To enable new economic opportunities and significant jobs growth, it is important that the NSW and Federal Government's invest in appropriate infrastructure and implement the Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Plan 2036.

City of Newcastle continues to reiterate the the importance of valuing Gateway Cities, to enable consistency of access to the appropriate level of grant funding to continue to support the exponential growth of Greater Newcastle.

Importantly, as a part of our City of Newcastle COVID-19 Taskforce, we have, for the first time, been able to set an agreed upon list of key, catalytic infrastructure priority projects to maximum our economic growth. The City Taskforce, made up of 17 key city leaders from across manufacturing, small business, financial services, tourism, transport and logistics, arts and culture, workers, education and the community sector provides a united voice of collaborative governance and rigour to City of Newcastle's advocacy.

Similar to the approach taken by the City Taskforce in 2020, our Government Relations approach will detail stories of how we are contributing locally and offer a partnership approach with key government departments to enable change. Furthermore, the City of Newcastle continues to collaborate with neighboring councils to ensure consistency of message to government.

ATTACHMENTS

- Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Plan 2036 (Online link [here](#))
- City Taskforce Infrastructure Priorities list

1. Catalyst Areas for Greater Newcastle Projects, as identified in the Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Plan

2. Large-scale priority infrastructure projects:

 Coastal Management Planning and Erosion Management, especially at Stockton Beach	 Flood mitigation at Wallsend	 Newcastle Airport Expansion	 Part of Newcastle Diversification	 Hunter Sports and Entertainment Precinct	
 Newcastle Light Rail Expansion	 Lower Hunter Freight Corridor	 Affordable housing initiatives	 Metropolitan wide active transport (walking & cycling) improvements	 John Hunter Hospital campus upgrades	
 Newcastle Art Gallery Expansion	 Local Sporting Amenity Upgrades	 Local Playground upgrades, particularly for disability inclusion	 Ferry Terminal at Wickham	 Pensioner Rate Rebates	 University of Newcastle STEM Regional Transformation Hub

3. Local priority infrastructure projects:

 Summerhill Waste Management Centre – Organics Processing Facility	 Richmond Vale Rail Trail	 Newcastle Beach Community Facility (Stage 2, Newcastle Beach – Bathers Way)	 Junction to Merewether Cycleway	 Newcastle West Bi-directional Cycleway – West End Stage 2, Phase 1
 Newcastle East End Streetscape Upgrades and Cycleway	 Foreshore Park All Abilities Playground	 Western Corridor Active Hub	 Local Centres Program	