

Department of Premier and Cabinet



Attachment I

Final Draft Active Living Proposals (TALC)

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| <input type="checkbox"/> For Noting<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For Decision<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For Discussion |
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## Recommendations Summary

- 1. Environments that promote active living must be considered in the infrastructure spending in COVID-19 recovery**
- 2. The Tasmanian Government should develop a Strategic Framework for Active Living (the Framework). The Framework would provide for longer term sustainable development of environments that encourage active living**
- 3. A long term funding mechanism should form part of the Framework with supporting governance to ensure there is adequate government investment over time to 'build in' active living investment in future infrastructure spending, public open space and urban/ rural transport planning**
- 4. The Council should directly recommend to the Premier and Chair of PESRAC recommendations 1-3 above.**

## Introduction

The Tasmanian Active Living Coalition (TALC), formed in 2019 following the successful *Active Living in Tasmania Forum* held at the end of 2018, with an objective to bring together a wide range of partners from Tasmanian organisations to advance active living in Tasmania.

In June 2020 TALC was invited by the Premier's Health and Wellbeing Advisory Council to coordinate proposals from TALC members.

Included in the papers for the meeting of the Premier's Health and Wellbeing Advisory Council meeting on 5 August 2020 was a paper from TALC that included a set of 11 proposals for active living projects. The TALC chair presented at that meeting on:

- Context for Active Living proposals consistent with a set of principles aligned to the Premier's Economic and Social Recovery Council (PESRAC) Interim Report released 20 July 2020.
- Strategic policy and funding initiatives.
- Priority areas for Action.

Council members agreed to reframe the paper so that:

1. the proposals set out in the TALC paper are clearly identified as **examples only** of what could be (a) either funded immediately, or (b) worked up for final funding proposals.
2. a less prescriptive approach be recommended with respect to exploring a longer-term sustainable funding mechanism.

## Recommendation I

### Environments that promote active living must be considered in the infrastructure spending in COVID-19 recovery

The package of information contained in Appendix I are **examples** of indicative active living proposals prepared by TALC member organisations to illustrate in a tangible way projects that could be possible under an Active Living Framework. These examples include proposals that could be (a) immediately funded, or (b) worked up for more detailed proposals.

These proposals are presented in the context of the COVID-19 recovery program, with reference to PESRAC Interim Report and potential intersections including:

- Recommendations 52-53 – promote regional infrastructure
- Recommendation 56 – Community transport, and
- Recommendation 63 – Regionally-based model for co-ordinating the recovery journey.

Many of the proposals also respond to the Heart Foundation Position Snapshot on immediate COVID-19 responses *Active Streets: the new normal for public space*<sup>1</sup> to support physical activity in a COVID-19 environment.

The proposals are diverse, representing a wide range of ideas for actions to enhance opportunities for active living in Tasmania. They cover a range of locations, communities, organisations, and stakeholder groups. Suggestions range from providing small-scale facilities through to larger infrastructure projects, and ideas for policy change.

The rationale for enhanced allocation for walking and cycling is articulated in the recently published article *Walking and cycling can help drive Australia's recovery* that includes a call to action for COVID-19 infrastructure investment<sup>2</sup>, See Figure I.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.healthyactivebydesign.com.au/images/uploads/PositionSnapshot\\_ActiveStreets-the\\_new\\_normal\\_for\\_public\\_space\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.healthyactivebydesign.com.au/images/uploads/PositionSnapshot_ActiveStreets-the_new_normal_for_public_space_FINAL.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> “Cycling and walking can help drive Australia's recovery – but not with less than 2% of transport budgets” by [Mclaughlin, M](#) and [Shilton, T](#), published on theconversation.com 23 July 2020  
<https://theconversation.com/cycling-and-walking-can-help-drive-australias-recovery-but-not-with-less-than-2-of-transport-budgets-142176>

Figure 1.

**A CALL TO ACTION FOR COVID-19 INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT**

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Develop and implement **Walking and Cycling Strategies** in all States and Territories
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Building **world class bicycle infrastructure** to keep people cycling
- 

Investing in **'active streets'** giving greater space and access for walking and for people who use mobility devices or wheelchairs
- 

**Increasing the share of road space** for separated bike and walking infrastructure
- 

Public education and behaviour change programs to **increase awareness and understanding of the health and financial benefits** of active transport
- 

Share **case studies of what works** to enhance our understanding
- 

Opportunities to **incentivise public transport and active travel** through the tax system
- 

Dedicated **walk and cycle to school programs** that use a combination of the above strategies around schools

## Recommendation 2

**The Tasmanian Government should develop a Strategic Framework for Active Living (the Framework). The Framework would provide for longer term sustainable development of environments that encourage active living.**

Tasmania’s Plan for Physical Activity was developed in 2011 by the former Premier’s Physical Activity Council (Council) in consultation with the Tasmanian Community. It’s four key goals are outlined in figure 1. The date of the plan is from 2011 to 2021, the status of the Plan is inactive and requires updating. The goals for the current Plan are summarised in Figure 2.

Figure 2:

### Tasmania’s Plan for Plan for Physical Activity 2011 – 2021



It is recognised in the *Tasmania Statement* that a cross-sector and collaborative approach is needed to develop public policies and plan environments supportive of active living, and subsequently improving the health of Tasmanians.

The Tasmanian Active Living Coalition Mission Statement states:

*‘Active living is a way of life where physical activity is part of our daily routine. This can be achieved when communities are planned so that people can easily walk or cycle to schools, workplaces shops and services, parks, and public transport. This means healthier lifestyles for residents, a more social and safer neighbourhood. It also means economic and environmental benefits through increased local shopping and decreased private motor vehicle use.’*

There exist many local, national, and international policy frameworks such as:

- *Getting Australia Active III*<sup>3</sup>
- *Blueprint for an Active Australia*<sup>4</sup>
- *Global Plan for Physical Activity 2018-2030*<sup>5</sup>

A key theme throughout the national and international frameworks for physical activity is the role the built environment and transport networks play in increasing active living opportunities.

Broadly, in the transport domain, investment should be directed towards:

- addressing street connectivity – including appropriately designed footpaths and cycling infrastructure in road development/ re-development
- improving accessibility to destinations through inclusion of active travel and public transport infrastructure in urban planning
- active travel programs through school-based interventions, workplace travel programs, alongside effective marketing, and promotion

In the built environment domain, investments should be directed towards:

- neighbourhood design that includes parks and green space, appropriate lighting, and shelter to make places feel safe and attractive
- mixed land-use areas, making workplaces, homes, and shops more easily accessible
- connected street networks designed to facilitate easy access to public transport, active travel infrastructure and key destinations.

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.sport.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/Getting-Australia-Active-III-April-2020.pdf>; Bellew B, Nau T, Smith B, Bauman A (Eds.) *Getting Australia Active III: A systems approach to physical activity for policy makers*. Sydney, Australia. The Australian Prevention Partnership Centre and The University of Sydney. April 2020.

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.heartfoundation.org.au/getmedia/6c33122b-475c-4531-8c26-7e7a7b0eb7c1/Blueprint-For-An-Active-Australia.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.who.int/ncds/prevention/physical-activity/global-action-plan-2018-2030/en/>; Bellew B, Nau T, Smith B, Bauman A (Eds.)

### **Recommendation 3**

**A long-term funding mechanism should form part of the Framework with supporting governance to ensure there is adequate government investment over time to ‘build in’ active living investment in future infrastructure spending, public open space, and urban/ rural transport planning**

Sustainable funding is critical to support a Strategic Framework for Active Living. A range of models should be explored through a health in all policies lens drawing on a range of possible funding sources including specific allocations as a percentage of total spends from appropriate budgets.

The Draft Premier’s Health and Wellbeing submission to the State Service Review (November 2020)<sup>6</sup> references some models to consider from other jurisdictions and discusses governance for health and participatory budgeting.

### **Financial Considerations**

- The members of the working group have provided their time and expertise as part of their current employment arrangements.
- Indicative costs/resources for the infrastructure projects have been estimated where possible, but further work is required.

### **Communication Considerations**

- The partners of TALC include:  
Heart Foundation, Tasmanian Government, Bicycle Network Tasmania, Brighton Council, City of Hobart, Clarence City Council, COTA, Cycling South, Local Government Association of Tasmania, Menzies Institute for Medical Research, Metro, Planning Institute Australia, RACT, University of Tasmania, West Coast Council.

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<sup>6</sup> Refer papers for Premier’s Health and Wellbeing Advisory Council meeting papers meeting 5 November 2020