CITY SERVICES

Bus Stops and Bus Shelters Policy DRAFT

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Randwick City Council
a sense of community

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1. Policy Objectives

The purpose of this Policy is to:

- Establish a consistent, transparent and evidence-based framework for prioritising bus stop and bus shelter upgrades.
- Ensure Council resources are directed towards locations with the greatest demonstrated need and strategic benefit.
- Promote accessibility, safety and passenger amenity at bus stops managed by Council within our Local Government Area.
- Support the equitable and sustainable delivery of bus stop and bus shelter infrastructure across the local government area.
- Guide decision-making associated with future street furniture contracts and infrastructure programs.

2. Definitions

Accessibility: The degree to which a bus stop or bus shelter can be safely and conveniently used by all members of the community, including people with disability and those with mobility limitations.

Bus Shelter: A structure installed at a bus stop to provide protection from weather and support passenger amenity.

Bus Stop: A designated location where passengers may board or alight from a public transport bus service.

Passenger Amenity: Features that improve passenger comfort, convenience and usability, including seating, shelter, lighting and accessibility infrastructure.

Prioritisation Framework: The framework used by Council to assess and rank bus stop and bus shelter improvement projects.

3. Scope

This Policy applies to bus stop, bus shelter and other related infrastructure for which Council has responsibility for planning, prioritisation, funding, maintenance or renewal within the Randwick Local Government Area.

The Policy does not replace the requirements of Transport for NSW standards, legislation, regulations or operational requirements relating to the public transport network.

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4. Policy Principles

Council will prioritise bus stop and bus shelter improvements based on the following principles.

4.1. Safety

Council will seek to improve the safety of passengers and other road users through the planning, design and maintenance of bus stop and bus shelter infrastructure.

4.2. Accessibility

Council will seek to improve accessibility for all users and, where applicable, ensure infrastructure upgrades have regard to relevant accessibility requirements and standards.

4.3. Passenger Amenity

Council will seek to improve passenger comfort and convenience through the provision of appropriate infrastructure, including shelter, seating and weather protection where feasible.

4.4. Evidence-Based Prioritisation

Council will utilise available patronage data, network planning information, accessibility requirements, site assessments and strategic planning objectives to inform investment decisions.

4.5. Local Character

New bus stop and bus shelter infrastructure will be designed and located having regard to the character of the surrounding area and visual impact on the streetscape.

4.6. Environmental Sustainability

Council will seek to incorporate environmentally sustainable design, construction and maintenance practices into bus stop and bus shelter infrastructure where practicable.

4.7. Financial Sustainability

Council will seek to deliver bus stop and bus shelter improvements in a financially responsible manner, including through appropriate partnerships and contractual arrangements where available. Council officers may exercise professional judgement when assessing the need for bus shelter infrastructure, having regard to the principles and prioritisation considerations contained within this Policy.

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5. Prioritisation Framework

Council will maintain a priority list for bus stop and bus shelter improvements. In determining priorities, Council may consider:

- Bus stop condition and audit outcomes (undertaken as required);
- Accessibility and compliance requirements;
- Existing passenger amenity;
- Passenger patronage and usage data;
- Service demand;
- Opportunities to coordinate works with other Council projects;
- Funding availability;
- Strategic transport and community outcomes;
- Deliverability considerations and limitations.

This prioritisation framework provides guidance for decision-making. The existence of a priority list does not create an obligation for Council to undertake works within a specific timeframe. Delivery of improvements remains subject to available funding, asset condition, technical feasibility and competing operational priorities.

6. Design Considerations

When assessing/designing new bus stops, shelters or upgrades, Council may consider:

- Accessibility;
- Passenger safety;
- Passenger amenity;
- Weather protection for passenger comfort;
- Shade provision for passenger comfort;
- Maintenance requirements;
- Streetscape and urban design outcomes;
- Visual impacts on adjacent land uses;
- Operational requirements of transport providers; and
- Sustainability.

7. Advertising and Commercial Arrangements

Council recognises that advertising partnerships can assist in funding the delivery, maintenance and renewal of bus stop and bus shelter infrastructure. Any advertising associated with bus shelter infrastructure must have regard to applicable planning controls and must not compromise the safety, accessibility or amenity of public transport passengers.

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8. Applicable Legislation

- Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)
- Roads Act 1993 (NSW)
- Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (NSW)
- Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002 (Cth)
- Transport Administration Act 1988 (NSW)
- Road Rules 2014 (NSW)
- State Environmental Planning Policy (Transport and Infrastructure) 2021

9. Links to the Delivery Program

This Policy supports the objectives of Council's Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program relating to connected and accessible transport infrastructure, public domain improvements and inclusive communities.

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