



Sunshine Coast Council
Transport Levy Annual Report
2021/22

Acknowledgement of Country

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Reference document

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Sunshine Coast Council acknowledges the Sunshine Coast Country, home of the Kabi Kabi peoples and the Jinibara peoples, the Traditional Custodians, whose lands and waters we all now share.

We recognise that these have always been places of cultural, spiritual, social and economic significance. The Traditional Custodians' unique values, and ancient and enduring cultures, deepen and enrich the life of our community.

We commit to working in partnership with the Traditional Custodians and the broader First Nations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) communities to support self-determination through economic and community development.

Truth telling is a significant part of our journey. We are committed to better understanding the collective histories of the Sunshine Coast and the experiences of First Nations peoples. Legacy issues resulting from colonisation are still experienced by Traditional Custodians and First Nations people.

We recognise our shared history and will continue to work in partnership to provide a foundation for building a shared future with the Kabi Kabi and the Jinibara peoples.

We wish to pay respect to their Elders – past, present and emerging, and acknowledge the important role First Nations people continue to play within the Sunshine Coast community.

Together, we are all stronger

From your Mayor and Portfolio Councillor

The Transport Levy plays a key role in improving our connectivity across our communities. It also provides the critical resources needed to better understand and improve how we access work, recreation and each other. Importantly, it also helps us plan, advocate and prepare for the future transport needs of one of Australia's fastest growing regions.

In 2021/22, there was no increase to the Transport Levy, keeping it at \$44. The levy generated about \$6.5 million which was allocated towards numerous projects to assist in preparing today's Sunshine Coast for tomorrow.

Council is improving accessibility to the bus network with improved bus stops. Also, as part of the Ridescore Active Schools Program trial, we are influencing how students at nine schools walk and ride to school.

Council's endorsement of the ThinkChange program is a key step in acknowledging that people should be aware of how they travel. It's important for residents and visitors to be aware of how their choices to reduce travel, or to take an alternative mode, can benefit themselves and the region.

The Transport Levy has also enabled Council to continue the Flexilink services on the fringe of the public transport network, support the community-led Kenilworth Community Transport Service and continue the well-used Council Link service.

The Transport Levy has also contributed the finalisation of the Options Analysis for the Sunshine Coast Mass Transit project. Your contribution to the Transport Levy helps us continue to work towards a more healthy, sustainable and better connected Sunshine Coast.



Mayor Mark Jamieson
Councillor Rick Baberowski

About your Transport Levy and where did your Transport Levy go in 2021/22?

The Transport Levy assists Council in meeting its responsibilities for the future transport needs of the Sunshine Coast. The Transport Levy plays an important role in funding key projects across the Sunshine Coast that support Council's strategic transport goals for today, and for the future.

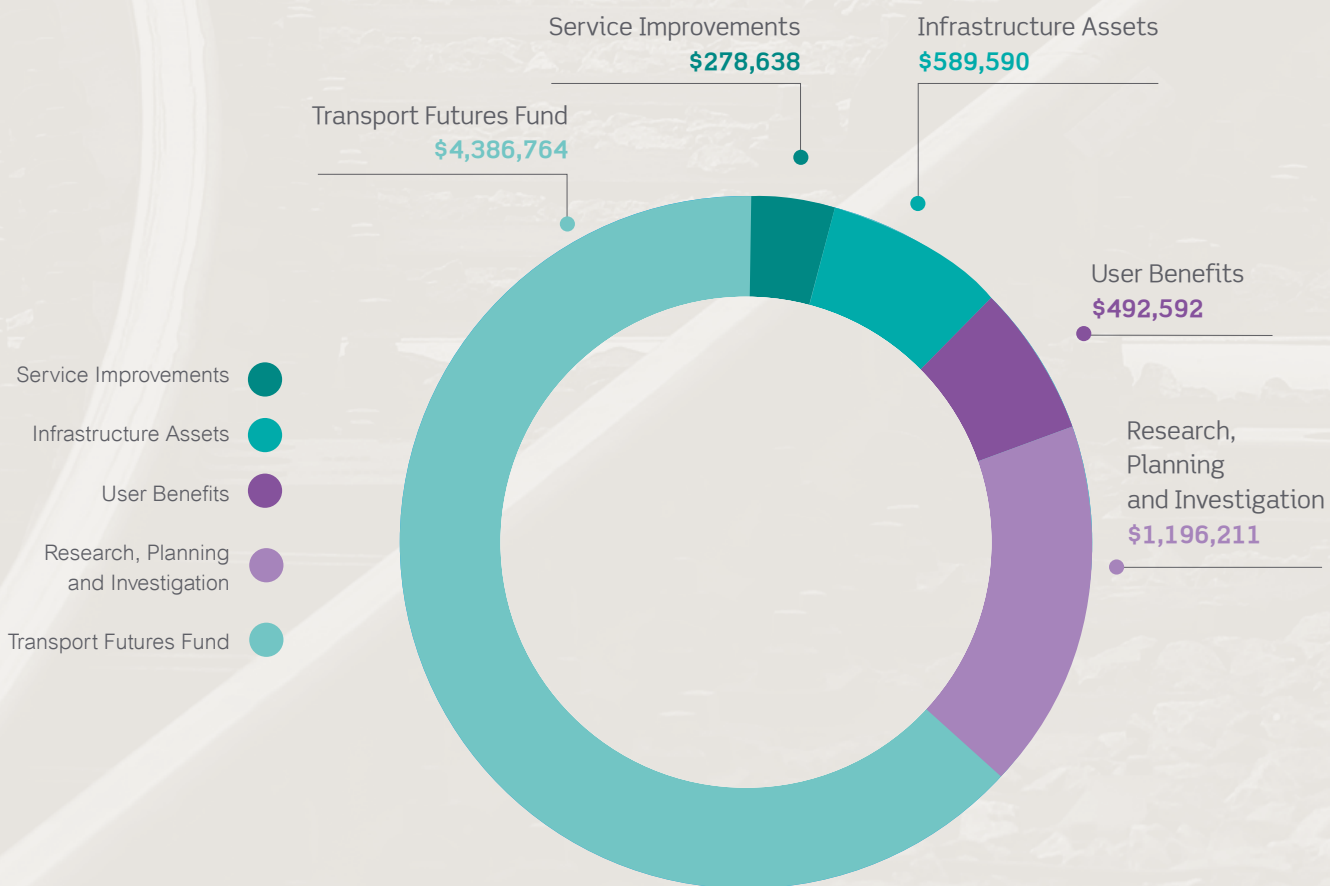


IN 2021/22 THE TRANSPORT LEVY WAS **\$44** PER ANNUM PER RATEABLE PROPERTY

THE TOTAL TRANSPORT LEVY REVENUE IN 2021/22 WAS **\$ 6,548,279**



In 2021/22 the Transport Levy continued to focus the funding allocation to five key areas that have the primary goal of improving connectivity across the Sunshine Coast. These five key areas and the funding investment on each area that occurred in 2021/22 are:



- Service Improvements
- Infrastructure Assets
- User Benefits
- Research, Planning and Investigation
- Transport Futures Fund



ADDITIONAL NON-LEVY GRANT FUNDING LEVERAGED **\$395,516**

TRANSPORT FUTURES FUND BALANCE AS OF 30 JUNE 2022 IS **\$21,571,709**



Transport Levy 2021/22 Program snapshot

Sunshine Coast Mass Transit Options Analysis

Council endorsed the Sunshine Coast Mass Transit Options Analysis on 20 October 2021. The Options Analysis was finalised after considering the feedback received during the extensive community engagement process conducted from 28 April 2021 to 22 June 2021.

The Options Analysis considered a wide range of options for delivering a mass transit system to serve the concentration of population in the urban corridor from Maroochydore to Caloundra (focusing on an initial stage in the northern part of the corridor). It also produced a refined range of options to be further investigated in the Detailed Business Case.

The Queensland Government will lead the preparation of the Detailed Business Case in collaboration with Council as a joint funding partner. The Detailed Business Case will evaluate the viability of the options put forward in the Options Analysis. This will confirm the economic, social, environmental and financial viability as the basis for enabling an investment decision to be made by the Queensland and Commonwealth Governments.

Bus Stop Upgrades

In 2021/22, \$589,590 from the Transport Levy was utilised to continue Council's bus stop infrastructure program. Under this program, 25 bus stops across the Sunshine Coast were completed, comprising a mix of new shelters on high patronaged stops frequented by seniors, and bike parking facilities at bus stops on the existing cycle network.

Funding assistance was also received from the Queensland Government to support Council's bus stop infrastructure program.

Service improvements

In 2021/22, the Transport Levy continued to fund a number of transport trials in several Sunshine Coast community areas that are not currently serviced by public transport.

Council Link

Council Link provides an affordable, door-to-door transport service for people aged 60 and over and for people with disabilities or a mobility impairment. This service, which was contracted to Comlink, collects people from their homes and takes them to and from their local shopping centre.



AVERAGE **220**
PASSENGERS
PER WEEK AND
53,924 KM
TRAVELLED BY
COUNCIL LINK

11,203
PASSENGER
BOOKINGS
DELIVERED
FOR THE YEAR



58
SUBURBS
SERVICED

52
NEW REQUESTS
FOR SERVICE



Council Link is a Sunshine Coast Council program funded through the Transport Levy.





Flexilink Trial Services

In 2021/22, the Transport Levy continued to deliver trial Flexilink transport services to two areas of the Sunshine Coast that currently have no access to public transport; the Peachester to Beerwah Flexilink service and the Conondale to Maleny Flexilink service.

Flexilink services are pre-booked scheduled transport services with each service offering six one-way trips that can be booked daily, Monday to Saturday.



IN 2021/22 THE FLEXILINK SERVICES DELIVERED OVER **2,700** PASSENGER TRIPS AND TRAVELLED OVER **33,000km** ACROSS THE TWO SERVICES



Kenilworth Community Transport Service

Throughout 2021/22, a dedicated group of volunteers from the Kenilworth community continued to operate the Kenilworth Community Transport Service. The service provides affordable, reliable and accessible community transport options to residents of the Kenilworth region who have limited transport options.



THROUGHOUT 2021/22 THE SERVICE AVERAGED **16** TRIPS PER MONTH AND **1.6** PASSENGERS PER TRIP, THE SERVICE NOW HAS **199** REGISTERED PASSENGERS, WITH **5** VOLUNTEER DRIVERS





Transport Levy 2021/22 Program snapshot

User benefits

Active Travel Maps

Following the successful release of the first four Active Travel Maps, Council has recently completed the fifth Active Travel Map series – the Sunshine Coast Hinterland Active Travel Map.

This A5 full-colour booklet showcases walking, cycling and public transport infrastructure across the hinterland areas centred around the train line and the main range towns.

A digital version can be accessed on Council's website.

RideScore Active Schools Program

Council, in partnership with We Ride Australia, has developed the RideScore Active Schools Program. This program was rolled out to nine selected Sunshine Coast schools in February 2022, with 1,400 students registered at end of June 2022.



18,193 CYCLING AND SCOOTING TRIPS BY RIDESCORE PARTICIPANTS HAVE BEEN RECORDED SINCE THE PROGRAM LAUNCH IN LATE **FEBRUARY 2022**, RESULTING IN A SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION IN PRIVATE VEHICLE TRIPS TO SCHOOLS.



In addition to funding from the Transport Levy, this program has been made possible with Federal grant funding from the Move it AUS program, Queensland Government and Stockland.



ThinkChange

ThinkChange™, Council's branded travel behaviour change program, is a key action of the Integrated Transport Strategy and is a 2021/22 Transport Levy funded initiative. The primary objective of **ThinkChange** is to help everyone on the Sunshine Coast identify ways that we can all reduce our car use and reduce how far we travel in our cars.

ThinkChange is a commitment, by Council, to work with the community to identify and implement different ways we can all make changes so that we have less congestion and better liveability on the Sunshine Coast.

In 2021/22, **ThinkChange** has already developed five pilot initiatives in collaboration with participating partners and it is intended that these five pilot initiatives will progress to delivery in 2022/23.



Modelling partnership with the Department of Transport and Main Roads

In 2021/22, Council has continued to develop and refine both region wide and local area computer models to assist with transport planning and forecasting of trips across the Sunshine Coast.

This model development has been undertaken in partnership with the Department of Transport and Main Roads and is partially funded by the Transport Levy. Transport modelling enables Council to analyse the existing and future performance of the transport network.

Transport Futures Fund

The Transport Futures Fund was created to ensure that Council could be positioned to support major public transport investments by the Queensland Government and the Australia Government, at a future time.

This does not include subsidising current or proposed public transport services contracted by the State.



THE TRANSPORT FUTURES FUND IN
2021/22
INCREASED BY
\$4,386,764

REFLECTING COUNCIL'S BUDGET
ALLOCATION AND END-OF-FINANCIAL
YEAR RECONCILIATION OF
TRANSPORT LEVY EXPENDITURE

THE TRANSPORT
FUTURES FUND
BALANCE AS AT
30 JUNE 2022 IS
\$21,571,709





Sunshine Coast[™]
COUNCIL

Our region.
Healthy. Smart. Creative.

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