Request for Upgrades to the Road Network

Council Policy Number 054
Date adopted 16 April 2019
Scheduled for review April 2021

Purpose
To provide a basis for assessing applications to Council to upgrade the road network.

Policy Statement
Council recognises that there are legitimate reasons why it will be necessary to consider upgrading the road network. Improvements include:
1. Upgrading a gravel road to a sealed road
2. Upgrading an earth road to a gravel or sealed road
3. Widening a sealed road including the sealing of the shoulders of a road
4. Application of a dust suppression treatment

Council will consider undertaking upgrades to the road network when:
1. The traffic count warrants such an improvement
2. All weather access is required to an existing or proposed residence, business, intensive livestock, dairy or industry
3. Dust is adversely impacting houses on a gravel road, providing the landowner contributes 50% of the cost of the works
4. There are adequate funds to carry out the proposed works: Priority is given to funding the renewal of existing road infrastructure in preference to improving the level of service of the road network.
5. There are benefitting landowners willing to contribute to the actual cost of the works in accordance with the benefit that they receive.

Council priorities, or order, for expenditure on its road network are as follows:
1. maintaining the existing road network at its current level of service
2. funding improvements to intersections and other locations to improve the safety of motorists, cyclists and pedestrians
3. works which reduce the future maintenance costs of Council and enhance the life of existing assets
4. upgrades to the road network.

Payment for Works regardless of type
Where the application is approved by Council and landowner/s are required to contribute to the works such contributions are required to be paid in full before works commence unless otherwise approved in writing by Council.

Council may allow landowners to make payments under this policy on a time repayment basis including interest.

Council will consider using a Special Charge Scheme to fund the work where there are more than two adjoining landowners wishing to upgrade a length or width of road.
The newly upgraded road and associated infrastructure including but not limited to: intersection, safety, signage, drainage works will be delivered to the standards of the operative Infrastructure Design Manual at the time of the work unless expressly stated otherwise and to Councils sole satisfaction.

Special charge schemes will be in accordance with the LG Act Part 8, Div 1, Sec. 163 – 166 and Council Policy 134 – Rates and Charges.

Exclusions
Where the road is subject to a planning permit the permit holder would pay for the upgrade of the road unless expressly stated otherwise in the permit.

Human Rights
This report has considered and complies with the Human Rights and Responsibilities contained in the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

Definitions
Nil

Related Legislation
Nil

Attachments
Procedure PR - Assessing applications for improvement to the level of service in the Road Network

Review Period
Two years

Responsible Officer
Asset Manager

Administrative Updates
It is recognised that, from time to time, circumstances may change leading to the need for minor administrative changes to this document. Where an update does not materially alter the policy, such a change may be made administratively. Examples include a change to the name of a Council department, a change to the name of a Federal or State Government department, and a minor update to legislation which does not have a material impact. However, any change or update which materially alters this document must be by resolution of Council.

Approval History

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Acting Chief Executive Officer: ............................

Date: 26/4/19