



Department of
Transport

WA Bicycle Network Grants Program Policy Statement 2022-2026



Document control

This policy statement may be modified by the Executive Director Urban Mobility where the extent of significant stakeholder and community benefit can be clearly demonstrated.

Owner	Executive Director Urban Mobility
Custodian	Manager Cycling
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Amendment record

This policy statement document is reviewed to ensure its continuing relevance to the grant program, systems and process that it describes. A record of contextual revisions is listed in the following table.

Page No.	Context	Revision	Date
-	-	Document developed and issued	September 2022

Statement

The Department of Transport (DoT) will develop, implement, and maintain the Western Australian Bicycle Network (WABN) Grants Program (the 'Program'); which is a key initiative of the *WA Bicycle Network Plan 2014-2031* (the WABN Plan).

Purpose

To guide DoT's implementation and administration of the Western Australian Bicycle Network Grants Program.

WABN Grants Program overview

The Program is a key initiative of the WABN Plan and is the State Government's primary funding source to local government for the purpose of planning, designing and implementing bicycle infrastructure and related initiatives.

Bicycle infrastructure provided by local government is a key part of WA's wider bicycle network and integrated transport system. The planning, building and activation of new bicycle facilities in urban and regional areas helps to increase the rate of bike riding participation in WA and supports widespread transport, economic, health, environmental and social benefits for individuals and communities.

Delivery of these facilities is supported by travel behaviour change and activation initiatives to ensure the social context of riding a bike is considered alongside the built environment.

Available funding is split evenly across the Perth Bicycle Network (PBN) and Regional Bicycle Network (RBN) streams and is also directed to related initiatives, including the Connecting Schools Grants Program, Active Travel Officers Grants Program, and development of strategic program resources.

The WABN Grants program is aligned to the DoT's strategic intent and directly links to the Sustainable Transport Solutions strategic priority.

Vision

The Program is to provide a transparent and equitable funding source to local governments, to help facilitate planning and delivery of best practice bicycle infrastructure, as well as initiatives that encourage people of all ages and abilities to ride more often.

Objectives

Through the administration of the Program, DoT aims to:

- deliver a best practice funding scheme through the effective management and administration of funding;
- support best practice planning, building and activation of new bicycle facilities;
- integrate bike riding and the benefits it brings to individuals and communities, into local government planning, systems and infrastructure delivery;
- work collaboratively with local government to achieve shared objectives and expectations; and
- help to ensure bicycle facilities provided by local government, wherever possible:
 - are safe, of high-quality and suitable for use by all ages and abilities;

- cater adequately for WA’s growing population and changing transport needs;
- align with and contribute to the State Government’s strategic, Long-Term Cycle Network (LTCN) for WA; and
- are implemented inclusively and with consideration of the built and social outcomes of bicycle riding.

To be eligible for grant funding, projects will need to be linked to outcomes specified in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines published annually ahead of each grant intake.

Principles

DoT achieves the Program’s objectives by ensuring:

- administration of the Program adheres to high standards of integrity, probity and financial management and accountability;
- effective collaboration, shared understanding of expectations, and positive working relationships with local government;
- the identification and selection of grant recipients is transparent, equitable and completed in a timely manner;
- comprehensive records are maintained to provide for review of funding decisions and project implementation; and
- Program policies, guidelines and processes are reviewed periodically and updated as required.

Governance and implementation

As an initiative of the WABN Plan, the Program follows the Cycling Governance Structure outlined in Figure 11 of the WABN Plan.

Funding decisions are based on a competitive grant assessment process culminating in recommendations being submitted to the Minister for Transport for approval.

Grant administration is based on the **Public Sector Management Act 1994: Instrument of Delegation PSMA – 2022 – 205053** (effective 9 May 2022), which authorises the Executive Director Urban Mobility to enter into grant agreements, of whatsoever nature, up to a total individual grant value of \$5 million provided the relevant grant has been:

- (i) published in the State’s annual Budget;
- (ii) approved by the Cabinet’s Expenditure Review Committee as part of the interim Budgetary process; or
- (iii) approved by the Minister for Transport.

In the case of WABN grants, DoT will be relying on the Minister’s approval, not just the provision of the grants in the State’s annual Budget.

Broader active mobility agenda

Strategic direction for the Program is taken from the WABN Plan. While the Program focuses on bicycle infrastructure and complementary behaviour change initiatives, it is also recognised that projects implemented through the Program will contribute to broader active mobility outcomes and the bicycle network will be utilised by all active mobility modes.

Related documents

- WA Bicycle Network Plan 2014-2031 (2017 Update);
- WA Bicycle Network Grant Opportunity Guidelines and Program Procedures; and
- Program information, documents and resources are available at www.transport.wa.gov.au/activetransport/wa-bicycle-network-and-grants.asp.

Policy contact

Enquiries relating to this Policy may be directed to the WABN Grants Program Team at wabngrants@transport.wa.gov.au.

Endorsement

This Policy has been endorsed by the Executive Director Urban Mobility, DoT and issued on 16 September 2022.