



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Transport**

Empowering a
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WA Bicycle Network Grants Program Policy Statement



WA Bicycle Network Grants Program Policy Statement

Prepared by Department of Transport

Owned by Executive Director Urban Mobility

Custodian: Manager Built Environment

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1	16 September 2022	Manager Cycling, Active Transport and Safety	Document developed and issued
2	29 July 2024	Manager Built Environment, Active Transport	Document updated according to Program review

1. 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).

1.1 Purpose

To guide DoT's implementation and administration of the WABN Grants Program.

1.2 Vision

The Program is to help facilitate planning and delivery of best practice active transport infrastructure, as well as initiatives that encourage people of all ages and abilities to walk, wheel and ride more often.

2. 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 active transport infrastructure and related initiatives.

Active transport infrastructure provided by local government is a key part of WA's wider active transport network and integrated transport system. The planning, building and activation of all ages and abilities facilities across WA helps to increase rates of active transport participation 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 Grant Program, Active Travel Officers Grants Program, and development of strategic program resources.

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

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 recognised that projects implemented through the Program will contribute to broader active mobility outcomes and the bicycle network will be used by all active mobility modes – people walking, wheeling and riding.

2.1 Objectives

Through the administration of the Program, DoT aims to meet the following objectives:

- Deliver a best practice funding scheme through the effective management and administration of funding.
- Work collaboratively with local government to achieve shared objectives and expectations.
- Integrate active transport and the benefits it brings to individuals and communities, into local government planning, systems and infrastructure delivery.

- Help to ensure active transport facilities provided by local government, wherever possible:
 - are safe, of high-quality and suitable for use by people of 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 and active mobility more generally.
- Support local governments in the delivery of best practice active transport infrastructure projects that:
 - enable more people to walk, wheel and ride as part of their everyday journeys and experiences;
 - contribute to continuous and connected active transport networks across WA;
 - support multimodal journeys by integrating active and public transport; and
 - support safe active travel options for journeys to and from town centres, schools, places of recreation and/or tourism opportunities.

To be eligible for grant funding, projects will need to address the criteria outlined in the Grant Opportunity Guidelines published ahead of each grant intake.

2.2 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 and in accordance with the DoT Grant Management Policy and Procedure;
- comprehensive records are maintained to provide for review of funding decisions and project implementation;
- policies and guidance are reviewed periodically and updated as required – this includes specific to the grant program, as well as planning and technical guidance; and
- the LTCN is maintained and updated.

2.3 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

2.4 Related documents

- WA Bicycle Network Plan 2014-2031 (2017 Update)
- WA Bicycle Network Grant Opportunity Guidelines and Program Procedures
- Activation, consultation and evaluation (ACE) guidance.

2.5 Policy contact

Enquiries relating to this Policy may be directed to the WABN Grants Program Team at wabngrants@transport.wa.gov.au. Program information, documents and resources are available on the [WABN Grants Program webpage](#).

2.6 Endorsement

This Policy has been endorsed by the Executive Director Urban Mobility, DoT and issued in July 2024.