



Transport Planning and Operations
Brisbane City Council
GPO Box 1434
Brisbane Qld 4001

18 December 2020

Online submission: brisbanetransportfuture@brisbane.qld.gov.au

Re: North west transport network

The Queensland Chapter of the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects (AILA) welcomes the opportunity to respond to the proposal to develop a business case for the North west transport network.

AILA is the peak national body for the Landscape Architecture. AILA champions quality design for public open spaces, stronger communities, and greater environmental stewardship. We provide our members with training, recognition, and a community of practice to share knowledge, ideas, and action. With our members, we anticipate and develop a leading position on issues of concern in landscape architecture. Alongside government and allied professions, we work to improve the design, planning and management of the natural and built environment.

In operation since 1966, AILA represents over 3,500 landscape architects and promotes excellence in planning and designing for life outdoors. Committed to designing and creating better spaces in Australia, landscape architects have the skills and expertise to improve the nation's livability through a unique approach to planning issues via innovative integrated solutions. In doing so, landscape architects contribute towards better environmental, social, and economic outcomes for all Australians.

AILA members believe there are significant opportunities to develop this North West Transport Corridor in a manner that develops a liveable and functional public realm that meets the needs of local communities and businesses, while ensuring natural landscapes and environments are enhanced and managed over the long term.

Active Travel

We encourage all levels of government to strongly consider a large component of the corridor be dedicated to Active Travel infrastructure with good connections to surrounding facilities.

Australian cities are car dominated and low in density with close to the world's highest per capita carbon footprint. Walking, cycling and use of public transport will become increasingly important factors in moving towards greater sustainability and livability of Australian towns and cities.

The benefits of active transport include:

- reduced transport congestion, leading to better use of time and greater productivity
- less fossil fuel use, leading to fewer greenhouse gas emissions and less air pollution
- improved health and wellbeing from walking and cycling, which means reduced public health costs from a more active population
- less household cost through reduced expenditure on fuel and maintenance of cars.

AILA advocates for the design of active transport systems as an integral component of new and redeveloped urban structure, ensuring that they are fully integrated into the network of travel modes to efficiently meet the needs of the community. Read AILA's Active Travel Position Statement [here](#).

Green Infrastructure

Green infrastructures (GI) are the strategically planned networks of natural and semi-natural areas in urban and regional settlements that provide environmental, social, and economic benefits to society.



AILA encourages government to:

- Establish a Green Infrastructure framework for this project that will interact with the built environment, underpin urban ecosystem functions, and improve the performance of conventional urban and infrastructure systems.
- Support natural systems to reduce our dependence on non-renewable energy which is essential in progressing towards a carbon neutral economy.
- Improve the ecological function of new and existing conventional infrastructure to improve their performance and reduce the negative environmental impacts of conventional infrastructure systems in construction and operation.

Green Infrastructure should be treated as components of an infrastructure system that interact with a range of other urban systems (transport, stormwater, ecological communities) that perform certain functions and provide ecosystem services that contribute to the sustainable operation and enhancement of urban and regional settlements. Read AILA's Position Statement on Green Infrastructure [here](#).

This submission has been formulated with the support of AILA members from Landscape Architecture practices within Brisbane. We are also in support of the submission from Queensland Walks.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss further, and request that we remain involved in the ongoing development of the North west transport network. Should you have any queries or wish to discuss, please contact Melanie West, AILA Queensland Chapter Manager on 0417 666 622 or melanie.west@aila.org.au

Yours sincerely,

David Uhlmann
AILA Queensland President