**ACRS Chapter Meeting Minutes**

**4pm (AEST Time)**

**Wednesday 23 August 2023 Conference Room 0.034 480 Northbourne Ave, Dickson ACT and via Webex.**

## Attendees:

Rod Katz - Chair

Tracey Norberg – Secretary

Lauchlan McIntosh – ACT Chapter Member

Simon Copland- Pedal Power

Oleksandra Molly - UNSW

Keith Wheatley – ACT Chapter Member

Fran Stanford- TCCS

Vanita Parekh- CFMS

Gemma Beet- ACRS

**Online**

Kate McDougal – ESC

Courtney Fink Downes – ESC

Brendan Maher – St John Ambulance

## Apologies:

Eric Chambers – ACT Chapter Member

Steve Lake - ATS

1. **Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country, Quorum**

Rod Katz opened the meeting and declared a quorum.

* 1. **Conflicts of interest**

No conflicts of interest raised.

1. **Minutes of previous meetings**
   1. **Meeting**

The draft Minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

* 1. **Outstanding action items**

All outstanding actions items were closed.

1. **Items for decision**
   1. **Anne Napier/Simon Copland**

ACT Draft Intersection Design Guide Anne

The draft Design Guide presents non-technical principles and examples for best-practice design of intersections and streets that support all forms of transport including walking, riding, and driving. These concepts balance safety, efficiency and attractiveness depending on the function of a street. The draft design guide is based on the Auckland guide and was reviewed and adapted to ACT. The guide went out for comment and there were a few stakeholders that made comment and they are still working on these comments. It is a guide not a standard, and can be used to improve existing infrastructure and in new developments. The final version of the guide will be completed by the end of the year.

Simon

Pedal power is positive about the guide and the fact that it is a guide and explains what you are doing and not why you are not doing it. What does the rollout look like and the timeframe of the rollout? Active Travel Plan has an approved network map and what t transition away from pinch points at the intersection where cyclists are still on the road network but needs funding to achieve this. New land releases need to be monitored so the guide is implemented. It is good that speed limit changes are also in the guide and intersections can be designed to suit the speed limit. Anne advised that the guide focusses on design speed rather than speed limits. The discussion on whether local speed limits should be lowered will be a separate process.

**Action:** Action to be completed.

1. **Standing Items**
   1. **Wildlife Project**

Fran

The final report of the project funded by an ACT Road Safety Grant and carried out by Assoc Prof Catherine Herbert of the University of Sydney has been delivered. The findings will be presented at the forum on 19th October. It is not yet for public release as it will be submitted to a peer review journal.

Courtney

Eurobadalla Shire Council worked with WIRES on a stretch of road to install the virtual fencing. The fencing was installed on a 1.1km stretch of road with a speed limit of 80km. The fencing consists of posts installed 25meters apart each with a blue light and a sonar and when the headlight of a vehicle hits the post the lights are activated as is a noise, which halts the animals until the vehicle has driven past. Prior to the installation of the fence, Council and WIRES were receiving 5 calls a week and in 8 months into the program only 5 animals have been struck on that stretch of road. The cost of the fencing is $10,000 per kilometre. **Action**: information to be presented to local insurance companies to ascertain interest in funding a further trial rollout of the system in or around Canberra.

**4.2 Safety when Transport and Work Merge –**

There are two people interested in the post workshop component. Prof Darren Wishart has contacted them to see if they have conducted their initial risk evaluations and if they wish to continue. The project team proposes to discuss with the ACT WorkSafe Commissioner ways to achieve wider understanding of the issues throughout the trades network. A variation needs to be submitted to the ACT Government for approval**.**

**4.3 ACT Road Safety Grants Review Forum**

Fourteen applications have been approved and notified with $517 thousand negotiated in the deeds.

**4.4 Older Drivers**

COTA ACT plans to conduct an Older Drivers Workshop in mid-October 2023 to finalise the ACT Road Safety grant project “Senior Driver Program” approved in 2019 .

**4.5 Local Government**

Kate commented that there is a pre-conference forum on the Monday of the conference with the Office of Road Safety and ALGA representatives attending. They are working with the College on where they sit within the structure of the College.

**4.6 Engagement with Local Academic Institutions**

Oleksandra Molloy from UNSW has now been included in ACT members of the ACRS and is pleased to be at the meeting and is looking forward to future participation. There is also some interaction with University of Canberra and ANU may be increasing their presence in road safety with the possible return of Prof Karin Anstey to Canberra.

1. **Items for noting/discussion.**
   1. Future Projects

Nil

5.2. Tracey will be presenting at the 2023 National Local Roads, Transport & Infrastructure congress (September) and Rod 4th Major Projects Conference (August) respectively.

**Action**: NIL

1. **Business without notice**

* Federal Grants are closing on Friday, which is very short notice, more time is needed so as people aren’t disadvantaged.
* One ARSC virtual attendance will be given out to one member of the ACT Chapter at the discretion of the board.
* ACT Chapter was approached by the NSW Chapter to have a combined meeting at the start of next year.
* Gemma asks all to keep an eye on the College emails with a view to trying the new members only area.
* Oleksandra Molly from UNSW requested letters of support from the Chapter for NRSAGP national road safety scheme application.

**Next Meeting**

Wednesday 25 October 2023

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Action** | **Responsibility** | **Progress** |
| Invite Tom McCluskie to take up a complementary virtual ARSC registration | RK | Invite sent |
| Obtain documentation from Courtney re virtual fencing | RK | Request sent |
| Letter of support for Oleksandra’s application | RK | sent |