

Road Upgrade Cost Sharing Policy

Issued: 7 March 2024

Review Date: March 2028

Version: 1

Record No: TBC

Skytrust Ref. No: TBC



1. Purpose of this policy

The purpose of this policy is to provide direction regarding requests to upgrade Council's road infrastructure network.

2. Scope of this policy

This policy applies to all existing sealed and unsealed roads within the Barunga West Council area that meet all of the following criteria;

- Are within public road reserves
- All (100%) adjacent landowners agree to enter into the legal arrangements under this policy
- Are not part of a proposed subdivision

Unmade roads are not included within the scope of this policy, they need to be 100% funded by the landowners requiring the construction of the new road.

In general works required (and associated costs) for the upgrade of stormwater, are excluded from the scope of this policy.

3. Policy Intent

The intent of this policy is to address road maintenance requests and upgrades in a manner that accommodates budget constraints while providing an avenue for timely solutions.

Recognizing the limitations in adding unscheduled road works to the Council's road management plan due to financial constraints, this policy seeks to facilitate road upgrades through a shared cost approach.

In situations where adjacent landowners express the need for road improvements not currently scheduled in Council's planning, a collaborative effort is required.

This policy establishes a framework for a shared cost approach, allowing ratepayers to expedite road upgrade projects.

By providing a mechanism for ratepayers to engage in a collaborative effort, this policy aims to enhance the responsiveness of the Council to community needs. It reflects a commitment to balancing fiscal responsibility with the desire for timely road improvements, ensuring that where there is a shared interest among stakeholders, road upgrades can be undertaken in a manner that benefits all parties involved.

4. Community Strategic Plan Objectives

This framework helps deliver the following objective from:

The Barunga West Council Strategic Management Plan 2020 – 2030:

Goal 2 – Quality Services, Facilities & Infrastructure

Objective 4 – Well maintained & Sustainable Local Road Network & Community Infrastructure.

5. Definitions

Road	A public street, road or thoroughfare to which public access is available on a continuous or substantially continuous basis to vehicles or pedestrians or both and includes an alley or laneway.
Sealing	The construction of a road (earthworks, pavement and seal).
Kerbing	The construction of concrete kerbs, drains and other structures for the drainage of water from a road.
Re-sheeting	Re-sheeting a road typically refers to the process of replacing or repairing the existing surface layer of the road with a new layer of material.

6. Policy

Construction Priority

The construction program for renewing existing road infrastructure will be determined by Council each year in accordance with Councils Infrastructure Asset Management Plan – Transport.

Priority shall be given to the renewal of existing assets over and above the construction of new assets, unless endorsed by Council in its annual capital works program.

Maintenance Priority

Existing road infrastructure will be maintained in accordance with the annual maintenance program. Priority shall be given to matters relating to public safety and accessibility, particularly in special use areas.

A quantitative system of condition evaluation is used for the assessment of the road infrastructure assets, the Barunga West Council Road Assessment Methodology document is available on Council's website.

Cost Sharing Arrangements

Where requests from adjacent landowners are received for improvements to road infrastructure such as road sealing, road re-sheeting and kerbing, which are not programmed works, a cost sharing arrangement may be entered into with the adjacent landowners on a 50-50 basis.

Requests for improvements to road infrastructure are to be considered by the Manager for Assets & Infrastructure and if approved, will be placed on record and funded in order of application, if and when this is economically efficient or when finances are available.

Council staff will advise all adjacent owners of the proposed upgrade and the fixed amount of their contribution. Any variance/ cost overruns (unless the scope of the project is changed) will be at the cost of Council.

Council, at its discretion, may also allow the landowners involved to pay the full amount up front (100%) and agree to refund 50% of the fixed cost in the next budget, should the landowner wish to have the work carried out and the Council not have the funds immediately available to undertake the works. This decision would be at the discretion of Council.

Ongoing Maintenance of road

On the completion of the road upgrade, there will be no special maintenance costs or additional charges for the ongoing maintenance of the road to the property owners. The road will be included within the Council's road network and maintained within the annual road maintenance budget.

Council reserves the right to not enter into an agreement for a road upgrade request.

6. Legislative Requirements

Road Traffic Act 1961

Transport (Road Passenger Services) Act 2018

Local Government Act 1999

Infrastructure Act 2019

7. Review

This Policy will be reviewed every four years from the date of each adoption of the policy, or more frequently as required.

8. Reporting

[File Path]

In order to ensure Council continues to provide the best possible service responses to its customers, this policy will be subject to periodic evaluation and review, and will be reported back to Council accordingly.

9. Responsible Officer

The Chief Executive Officer is accountable for ensuring the proper operation of this Policy, with the core functions delegated to be overseen by Manager of Assets and Infrastructure, such as:

- Maintaining records/register
- Reporting
- Keep the policy current
- Investigating breaches and enforcing compliance
- Implementing communications, education and monitoring strategies

The Manager of Assets and Infrastructure can assist in providing or obtaining further information on 8635 2107 or PO Box 3, Port Broughton SA 5522.

12. Approval and Review

Responsible Work Area	Works Department
Responsible Officer	Manager Assets and Infrastructure
Date/s Adopted	
Date of next review	[two years from last adoption]
Skytrust Reference	
Records Reference	

As this document is not required to be adopted by Council under any Legislation, the CEO is to endorse the policy below.

Signed:
 Chief Executive Officer

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 Date