



**Minutes of the Asset and Sustainability Committee
held on Tuesday, 2 August 2022 at 6.30 pm
Council Chamber, Council Administration Centre
245 Sturt Road, Sturt**

PRESENT

His Worship the Mayor Kris Hanna (7:45pm)

Councillor Ian Crossland (Chair)

Councillor Bruce Hull

Councillor Tim Gard

Councillor Nathan Prior

In Attendance

Chief Executive Officer – Tony Harrison (7:10pm)

General Manager City Services – Ben Keen

Executive Officer to General Manager City Services – Colleen Madsen (minutes)

Manager Engineering, Assets & Environment – Mathew Allen

Unit Manager Engineering – Carl Lundborg

Unit Manager Environmental Sustainability – Ann Gibbons

Unit Manager Asset Solutions – Brendon Lyons

Fleet Manager – Evert Verhage

Asset Strategy Officer – Catrin Johnson

Senior Project Manager – Lisa Jones

Regional Coordinator Resilient South – Stefan Caddy-Retalic

Manager Office of the CEO – Kate McKenzie

Chief Financial Officer – Ray Barnwell

Gething Pty Ltd – Jake Bugden

1 Open Meeting

The Chair opened the meeting at 6:34pm.

2 Kaurna Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the Kaurna people, the traditional custodians of this land and pay our respects to their elders past and present.

3 Elected Member Declaration of Interest (if any)

The Chair asked if any member wished to disclose an interest in relation to any item being considered at the meeting

Nil interests were disclosed.

4 Confirmation of Minutes**4.1 Confirmation of Minutes of the Asset and Sustainability Committee Meeting held on 5 July 2022**

Report Reference ASC220802R4.1

Moved Councillor Prior

Seconded Councillor Gard

That the minutes of the Asset and Sustainability Committee Meeting held on 5 July 2022 be taken as read and confirmed.

carried unanimously

5 Business Arising

5.1 Business Arising Statement - Action Items

Report Reference ASC220802R5.1

Moved Councillor Hull

Seconded Councillor Prior

That the Asset and Sustainability Committee:

1. Notes the business arising statement, meeting schedule and upcoming items.

carried unanimously

6 Confidential Items

7 Reports for Discussion

7.1 Fleet Transition Plan

Report Reference ASC220802R7.1

The report was taken as read and the Unit Manager Environmental Sustainability introduced Jake Bugden from Gething Pty. Ltd. and City of Marion Fleet Manager, Evert Verhage to present to the Committee an update on the development of a Fleet Transition Plan to support the City of Marion's carbon neutral commitments.

Key discussion points noted:

- Currently 6 passenger EV options available.
- City of Marion is considering all vehicle types. There are no buses on the market today that we have confidence can be useful long term, however the Cross Council partnership is looking into the possibility of an electric bus.
- Whole of life cost base is less expensive than may be expected. Current electricity costs have been factored in. We have been conservative in factoring costs as with the current energy crisis there are significant unknowns, so we are keeping it standard – it has been assumed there will be no solar contribution at City Services.
- EVs require less maintenance.
- It is recommended to install all charging infrastructure at the City Services and Administration sites at the onetime to save costs and there is enough power at both sites to do this. This will allow passenger vehicles to transition over the next 5 years.
- Consideration should be given to off-site charging options including home charging as an approach to garaged vehicles.
- Lithium batteries last 5 years and go into landfill. A well-made EV battery will last longer than the vehicle.
- Hydrogen versus EV – problem with hydrogen is conversion issues.
- EV has high resale at the moment but there is uncertainty of what it will be in 5 years when reselling.
- Try to have a policy that doesn't have a fixed term.
- Bidirectional charging is important to consider.
- There is an option available to have solar charging as part of the infrastructure, however it is not considered at this time due to the high expense. There will be an opportunity to review at a later time.

- Electric buses and trucks – we are looking at other companies interstate as there is no one in SA working in that space – if we are investing premium money into a product it needs to be well supported and built by a reputable manufacturer.
- Should Council step into the space of installing charging infrastructure there would be competitions from RAA and others. International experience has shown that most charging is done at home.
- There are a lot of fleet management tools, some of which incorporate EVs. Council is doing an internal review and identified improvements are available. We are currently speaking with companies to get to the next step. Looking towards this in the next 6-12 months.
- Timing of transitioning – keen to move forward as quickly as possible in a staged approach, commencing with passenger vehicles as they are due for upgrade. The current AGL EV trial is due to commence within the next month.

The Chair thanked presenter, Jake Bugden.

Moved Councillor Hull

Seconded Councillor Gard

That the Asset and Sustainability Committee:

1. Notes the information provided in the meeting on the City of Marion's current fleet and options for transitioning to electric vehicles.
2. Provides input in the meeting to shape the City of Marion Fleet Transition Plan.
3. Recommends to Council to adopt all the recommendations contained within the report.
(Attached)
4. Recommends to Council to expedite the transition to EV fleet.

carried unanimously

The chair sought and was granted leave of the meeting to bring forward the following agenda item Environmental Sustainability Update to be considered next on the agenda.

8.1 Environmental Sustainability Update

Report Reference ASC220802R8.1

The report was taken as read and Manager Environmental Sustainability, Ann Gibbons presented on the highlights for 2022. It was noted that the Sea Pool project was missing from the report as a key project that will provide coastal protection.

- Gazania Free Gardens Plant Giveaway held 19 June 2022 and partially funded by Green Adelaide.
- Environment report card was created in 2021 with the next edition due February 2023.
- Kerbside Waste and recycling program audit undertaken with a report going to Council on 23 August 2022.
- CoastSnap – five locations now installed.
- New water detention basin at Lucretia Way, Hallett Cove.
- Continuing support for community gardens.

- Verge Incentive Fund has had a lot of community interest – 66 non-edible garden applications and 3 edible garden applications. Currently 11 rebate applications.
- Ran Plastic Free July promotions at the Cove Community Centre.
- Regulated tree maintenance fund – 10 applications to date.
Grow it Local, partnering with Green Adelaide – people to grow and share foods in own back yards.
- Sturt River Biodiversity – grant from Green Adelaide, with a report going to 16 August Forum.
- Tree planting activities and support from Friends Groups.

We are noticing a continued increase in interest from our community in what Council is doing from an environmental perspective, evidenced by the recent community satisfaction survey feedback and early input to the new 4-Year Business Plan.

Regional initiatives will be explored further as we develop the new Resilient South Regional Climate Action Plan in the coming months. CoM focussed actions can be included in the new 4 Year Business Plan.

The chair provided an update from SRWRA

- Upgraded strategy at SRWRA – employing an education officer.
- Solar farm probably now not financially viable.
- Solar on the roof of Materials Recovery Facility (MRF).
- Creating a lot of carbon credits – able to deliver those offsets to each council.

Carbon Neutral Plan

An update on Council's progress towards its carbon neutral by 2030 goal was provided. This information will also be provided to the upcoming FRAC meeting.

Carbon emissions have reduced by 41% in 2021/22 (3,381 tCO₂e) compared with the 2015/16 baseline (5,701 tCO₂e). Increasingly accurate data is being developed over time so some of the numbers may vary from previous reports.

CEO advised that power costs will be upwards of \$600k extra that was not budgeted for, and higher costs expected to continue for next 2-3 years – highest rating towards renewable.

Preference is to invest in green energy as per the endorsed Carbon Neutral Plan.

Action: Staff to do modelling on how the 'Progress towards carbon neutral by 2030 goal' chart in the presentation would look like in terms of South Australian Government's commitment to a 100% renewable electricity grid by 2030.

CoM is currently participating with Green Industries SA project to benchmark against other councils. Focus has been on reducing emissions from what we have control over, electricity use for streetlighting and in buildings, fleet, etc.

Will still need to purchase offsets for remaining emissions in 2029/30 to achieve target, this will come back to Council for decision.

Unit price for Australian Carbon Credit Units continues to change and there is regulatory review underway in response to concerns regarding lack of transparency in accounting methods, etc. The Committee discussed the possibility of whether council lighting could be sensor activated instead of the current lighting that is timed and whether it would be possible to trial dimming lights.

Moved Councillor Prior

Seconded Councillor Gard

That the Asset and Sustainability Committee:

1. Notes the environmental sustainability update and provides feedback on the environmental themes covered in the report.

carried unanimously

7.2 Walking and Cycling Guidelines (2023-2028)

Report Reference

ASC220802R7.2

The General Manager City Services, Ben Keen introduced Unit Manager Engineering, Carl Lundborg for a presentation on the proposed review and update of the Walking and Cycling Guidelines.

The presenter asked two questions:

1. Is Walking and Cycling Guidelines the tight title for the document?
2. Should we split the guidelines and implementation plan?

The Committee discussed:

- There is merit in splitting the implementation plan as opposed to guidelines.
- The title and the guidelines need to have consistency. Walking and Cycling is a generic term used around Australia, and comprehension is important as to what the guidelines are about.
- Walking and Cycling makes sense for the inclusion of shared paths.
- Should the plan be circulated publicly it would also need to include guidelines but could still be called a plan.
- Implementation plan should be a stand-alone document.
- The Committee decided that the guidelines are still relevant with minor edits, condense the document if possible.

Action:

1. **Split the Guidelines and the Implementation Plan into two documents.**
2. **Update the two documents as required using tracked changes.**
3. **Circulate the documents with tracked changes via email to the Committee requesting feedback from the Committee and bring back to a future ASC meeting.**

E-scooters needs to be a separate topic.

DIT has not shown an interest in undertaking a review of the bike lanes.

Look at feasibility of creating infrastructure going to Majors Road.

Majors Road should be listed as high urgency.

Signage is an issue.

Assign separate attention to non-bike lane areas in respect to signage and planning.

Action:

Include an action in the Implementation Plan to 'Review Council controlled bike lane utilisation and times'. Timeframe to be included in the Plan.

Moved Councillor Gard**Seconded Councillor Prior**

That the Asset and Sustainability Committee:

1. Supports the review of the City of Marion Walking and Cycling Guidelines (2023-2028).
2. Provides feedback on a proposed scope and approach for the review.

carried unanimously

7.3 Asset Management Update

Report Reference ASC220802R7.3

Unit Manager Assets, Brendon Lyons introduced the following presenters:

- Catrin Johnson; Results of CoM Asset Management Maturity Assessment
- Lisa Jones; Asset Management Information System Update
- Stefan Caddy-Retalic; Resilient Asset Management Project (RAMP)

Asset Maturity Assessment

- The City of Marion is doing well against 89 Councils benchmarked and we have a strong Asset Solutions Team. There are 11 assessment areas in the national framework. Assessing the integration of these 11 areas is not part of the assessment.
- Each of the assessed areas individually are assessed as exceeding core asset management maturity, however an assessment of how they integrate is the opportunity for improvement.
- Key area of focus going forward is the operationalisation of asset management at the City of Marion.

Asset Management System, which has been purchased by CoM is called Assetic.

- All our data will be in the one place – 90% of data has been loaded.
- Access to the new system for managing our asset data in one place should be in place in October.
- The Committee is happy for the team to provide them with updates as they occur.
- We are looking for the system to give Council the means to forecast and resource appropriately. Historically we have not had the data to give that information.
- The system will allow renewable dates and have flexibility that if the assets are not ready to be replaced then the dates can be pushed out.
- A standard report can be produced in what the next 6,12,18 months looks like.

Resilient Asset Management

The following areas were discussed:

- Climate risks for councils - Climate change affects all aspects of our business and there is a necessity to maintain service levels and meet community expectations.
- Climate risk needs to be understood, disclosed and managed in order to meet our responsibilities under the Local Government Act and maintain our insurance coverage. Climate risk government assessment, CoM scored as one of the highest councils in Australia, however scored poorly in asset management, consistent with other councils across Australia.
- Planning, risk and regulatory context, consider future drivers of demand (including climate change) and how these may impact budgets for maintenance and renewal.
- Climate risk should be considered when reviewing whole of life costs and risks to major projects.
- Resilient Asset Management Project (RAMP) was conceived to fill the gap identified in the climate risk governance assessments, and \$349,000 in external funding obtained.
- Working across councils delivers financial efficiencies, reduces duplication of effort and builds a consistent approach across the sector.
- The RAMP will pilot the integration of climate risk into roads (all councils), major buildings (Marion only), outdoor and coastal assets (Holdfast Bay only), bridges (Mitcham only) and stormwater assets (Onkaparinga only).
- Leading in the state as the first government undertaking this process.
- Currently finalising recruitment of a delivery partner and will begin pilot of a framework and tools over the next few months.
- The RAMP process is designed be repeated for other asset classes and to be transferred for use by other councils and government agencies.

9:29pm

Moved Councillor Prior

Seconded Councillor Gard

That the meeting be extended by 5 minutes

carried unanimously

Climate change is an uncertainty. What we are building is not a plan for CoM to be climate change proof.

Moved Councillor Hanna

Seconded Councillor Gard

That the Asset and Sustainability Committee:

1. Notes the report and provides feedback to support the progress of Asset Management at the City of Marion.

carried unanimously

8 Reports for Noting**9 Workshop / Presentation Items**

Nil.

10 Other Business

Nil.

11 Meeting Closure

The meeting shall conclude on or before 9.30pm unless there is a specific motion adopted at the meeting to continue beyond that time.

The meeting was declared closed at 9:31pm.

CONFIRMED THIS 11 DAY OF OCTOBER 2022

CHAIRPERSON