

Item 16 - LMM 28/07/2020 - Infrastructure Australia 2021 Priority List

MOTION

That City of Newcastle:

1. Notes that Infrastructure Australia's Infrastructure Priority List provides evidence-based advice to support an informed discussion about Australia's spending priorities.
2. Notes that Infrastructure Australia Chief Executive Officer, Romilly Madew AO, has written to the City of Newcastle, seeking a submission for the next update of the Infrastructure Priority List, which will be published in February 2020.
3. Notes that our infrastructure priority projects have been endorsed by Council and the City Taskforce, and sent to the New South Wales and Federal Treasurers, as well as the local Members of Parliament for consideration as stimulus projects to assist the economy recover from the effects of the COVID-19 global pandemic;
4. Prepares a submission for consideration for the 2021 Infrastructure Priority List publication, outlining projects of significance to the City of Newcastle, and the Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Area (as outlined in the Greater Newcastle Metropolitan Plan 2036), including:
 - Coastal Management Planning and Erosion Management at Stockton Beach
 - Flood mitigation at Wallsend
 - John Hunter Hospital - Stage 2
 - Newcastle Art Gallery Expansion
 - Newcastle Ocean Baths restoration
 - Lower Hunter Freight Corridor
 - Greater Newcastle Light Rail Expansion
 - Hunter Sports and Entertainment Precinct
 - Port of Newcastle Diversification
 - Newcastle Airport Expansion
 - University of Newcastle's Science, technology, engineering, mathematics and medicine (STEMM) facility
 - Affordable housing initiatives
 - Local Sporting Amenity Upgrades
 - Local Playground upgrades for Disability Inclusion
 - Ferry Terminal at Wickham
 - Active Transport (Walking & Cycling) Improvements

BACKGROUND:

July 2020

Call for submissions to the 2021 Infrastructure Priority List

Key dates

31 August 2020: **Close of submissions**

September–October 2020: **Assessment period**

December 2020: **Consideration by the Infrastructure Australia Board**

February 2021: **Publication of the 2021 Infrastructure Priority List**

Supporting the infrastructure pipeline

Infrastructure Australia is now calling for submissions for the next major publication of the Infrastructure Priority List in February 2021.

It is crucial that Australia retains a comprehensive and robust infrastructure pipeline to respond to the current COVID-19 pandemic and the recovery from the bushfire crisis. The [Infrastructure Priority List](#) provides evidence-based advice to support an informed discussion about Australia's spending priorities.

Last year we received a record number of submissions across social, transport, water, energy and telecommunications infrastructure. This culminated in the February 2020 Infrastructure Priority List, which contained 147 nationally significant proposals – the largest in its history.

Submissions

We welcome submissions in all infrastructure sectors – energy, water, transport, telecommunications and social infrastructure.

We are also calling for submissions in response to new national initiatives that Infrastructure Australia included in the latest Priority List:

- Ensuring access to secure water supplies for towns and cities
- Developing a national strategy for water
- Safeguarding coastal regions from inundation
- Responding to the waste and recycling management challenges
- Addressing road maintenance issues
- Establish a program for Indigenous art and cultural facilities
- Broadening mobile telecommunications coverage in regional and remote areas.

We encourage you to consider these and previous national initiatives identified by Infrastructure Australia when developing submissions. We would also welcome the opportunity to provide advice on responding to these national initiatives, or on other submissions that are being developed.

How to make a submission

We have attached our combined template and checklist for **Stage 1 (Problem identification and prioritisation)** submissions to Infrastructure Australia. For detailed guidance on preparing a submission, please consult our published [Assessment Framework](#).

We encourage you to discuss submissions with us as they are being prepared. To engage with us, please contact Rob Busch, Manager – Infrastructure Prioritisation, on (02) 8114 1913, or email us at IPLSubmissions@infrastructure.gov.au.

To formally lodge a submission, please send your completed template and checklist to IPLSubmissions@infrastructure.gov.au and we will keep you updated as we assess and consider each proposal.

The Priority List is a 'live' document and is open to submissions at any time, but **to be considered for the 2021 publication, submissions must be received before 31 August 2020.**

We look forward to engaging with you and your officers over the coming months on potential submissions.



Romilly Madew
CEO, Infrastructure Australia

RELATED PREVIOUS DECISIONS:

- LMM xx/xx/2018 – City of Newcastle Budget submission 2018/19
- LMM xx/xx/2019 – City of Newcastle Budget submission 2019/20
- LMM 27/08/2019 - Infrastructure Priority List 2020 update
- LMM 28/04/2020 - City of Newcastle Fast-track Infrastructure Stimulus Opportunities

ATTACHMENTS:

- City of Newcastle Budget Priority Projects
- City of Newcastle Budget Priority Fact Sheet