

# principles and planning assumptions for the GIRTP

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# principles

## guiding principles of the GIRTP

A number of broad overarching principles for integrated regional transport planning activities in Queensland were identified in Queensland Transport's (1999) *Integrated Regional Transport Planning Principles*. These over-arching principles provide a conceptual framework for integrated transport planning throughout the State. A copy of this document is available from Queensland Transport by calling 07 4931 1651 or can be downloaded from Queensland Transport's website: [http://www.transport.qld.gov.au/QT/RTPWeb.nsf/index/irtp\\_principles](http://www.transport.qld.gov.au/QT/RTPWeb.nsf/index/irtp_principles)

Within this broad framework, the GIRTP highlights a number of more specific principles which, while also important throughout the State, are especially applicable to the Gladstone region and will guide the implementation of the GIRTP.

The guiding principles for the development of the Action Plans contained in the GIRTP are:

- Integrated Transport Planning
- Economic Efficiency & Growth
- Environmental Sustainability
- Equity, Employment & Social Justice

These guiding principles were developed to support the identification of specific actions and the Recommended Capital Program for each Action Plan to ensure key regional concerns identified during consultation were given proper attention in the development of the GIRTP.

It should be noted that these guiding principles were selected because of their importance to the Gladstone region. They should be considered across all transport modes and actions.



### **Integrated Transport Planning**

The GIRTP recognises the need to integrate regional transport networks and land use to facilitate the movement of freight and to cater for the needs of residents.

This will require:

- Integrating road, rail, port, aviation, public and passenger transport and miscellaneous transport infrastructure;
- Integrating land use and transport planning;
- Promoting appropriate transport modes and making full use of emerging technology;
- Ensuring the implementation of GIRTP is considered in the context of the development of the new regional plan for Central Queensland, *Central Queensland – A New Millennium*;
- Promoting safety across transport modes.

### **Economic Efficiency & Growth**

The GIRTP recognises the significance of Gladstone Port to the regional economy and the need to plan efficient transport networks to properly serve the region's major industrial areas (i.e. the Gladstone State Development Area) and all regional industry. Specifically the GIRTP recognises the need to plan and provide appropriate port, road, rail and aviation infrastructure and miscellaneous transport infrastructure (eg. pipelines, conveyors) for the ongoing economic development of the region.

This will require:

- Identifying and preserving transport corridor options for the future provision of regional road, rail and other miscellaneous transport infrastructure;
- Planning transport networks in a flexible manner in order to accommodate new, expanding and changing major industry within the region;
- Identifying the freight task, supply chains and congestion points in transport corridors; and

- Maximising funding opportunities to meet future demands, particularly by industry, on transport networks, especially road.

### **Environmental sustainability**

The GIRTP recognises the need to develop a sustainable transport system for the Gladstone region which meets the needs of industry and business, as well as the needs of residents and the community, without doing permanent harm to the global environment or damaging local environments. This is consistent with the National Strategy for Ecologically Sustainable Development and aims to minimise adverse impacts on natural resources and the environment.

This will require:

- Implementing sensitive alignment, design, construction and management of roads, railway lines and other transport infrastructure to avoid or minimise impacts on natural and cultural values;
- Ensuring that the planning, construction and operation of the transport systems minimise noise, air quality degradation and other traffic impacts on residential areas, noise-sensitive land uses and the natural environment;
- Ensuring that the conservation of wildlife and the functioning of natural ecosystems are adequately addressed as part of impact assessment;
- Ensuring that the planning and provision of transport infrastructure and transport systems in the Gladstone region is consistent with Federal, State and local environmental statutes, State Planning Policies and any State or Regional Coastal Management Plans. These include those relating to environmental impact assessment; nature conservation; management of acid sulphate soils; development and conservation of agricultural land; National Greenhouse Strategy; the spread of declared plants; marine pollution; and the management of wetlands, State forests and reserves.

### Equity, Employment & Social Justice

The GIRTP recognises the need to plan and provide transport infrastructure and systems in a manner that achieves State and local government social justice objectives and provides a socially just transport system for the Gladstone region and community.

A socially just transport system should ensure that all members of the community are able to move around to fulfil basic needs. It should be secure, safe and affordable, have minimal intrusion on people's lives, involve the community in the development and management of the system, and ensure that the costs of providing transport are shared equitably.

This will require:

- Providing a network that offers mobility and accessibility for the regional communities;
- Ensuring that the planning, provision, operation and management of transport infrastructure and services:
  - fully assesses social and community impacts;
  - contributes to meeting gaps and unmet transport need and achieving social equity objectives;
  - considers safety and accessibility, especially for older people and people with a disability;
  - meets appropriate guidelines and standards;
  - complies with appropriate legislation contributing to social justice objectives;
- Ensuring that Cultural Heritage matters are appropriately considered including sites of heritage significance (eg. Aboriginal sites, historic buildings and landscapes);
- Ensuring that native title matters are appropriately considered.

- Recognising the right of people to provide comments on transport issues that affect them and ensuring that the requirements of State and local government consultation policies and procedures are met;
- Ensuring that issues of personal safety and security, particularly for older people, people with a disability, and women are considered in all transport planning decisions;
- Promoting best practice design for urban transport vehicles and infrastructure to meet the needs of people with disabilities or mobility difficulties.

