SHAPING UP
Second Edition

Shaping urban communities to support public transport, cycling and walking in Queensland

SHAPING UP

A guide to the better practice and integration of transport, land use and urban design techniques

Shaping urban communities to support public transport, cycling and walking in Queensland

Copies of Shaping Up are available from:

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‘Shaping Up’ is a signature project of the “Integrated Regional Transport Plan for South East Queensland (IRTP)”. A key objective of the IRTP is to provide a more sustainable transport system which moves passengers more efficiently, supports economic development and reduces the need to travel by car.

It is intended that these guidelines become a readily available tool to enable local government transport and land use planners and the development industry to better achieve the objectives of the IRTP not only in South East Queensland, but across the whole of the State.
Ensuring Queensland remains an enjoyable place to live and work is an important responsibility of both government and the community.

As the number of people living and working in Queensland grows, the high costs of reliance on the use of private cars are becoming more noticeable through:

- the financial costs of providing additional road capacity
- the social costs imposed on nearby communities
- the environmental costs of air pollution
- increasing congestion and delays
- adverse impacts on business and industry.

Sprawling communities separated from employment, shopping and other attractions mean people need to use their cars, instead of being able to walk, cycle or use public transport to fulfil daily needs.

For these reasons it is not just transport policies, but land use policies as well that will play a key role in the future of the State.

Shaping Up provides the ideas and opportunities to design our communities better.

These guidelines emphasise the need for land use and development decisions to build on and support the existing transport system. They also emphasise the importance of making public transport, walking and cycling more competitive with car travel. The guidelines show how land use and transport planning can be integrated to meet the major travel and environmental challenges ahead. Better designed neighbourhoods will offer the lifestyle benefits of reduced car dependency and increased access to local activities.

We fully support these Shaping Up guidelines and congratulate the wide range of people who contributed to their development. We recommend their use by all levels of government, the development industry, and land use and transport planners throughout Queensland.

By putting the guidelines into practice, together we can plan and develop more livable communities for the future.

Minister for Transport and
Minister for Main Roads

Minister for Communication and Information,
Local Government and Planning

President, Local Government
Association of Queensland
Acknowledgements

These Guidelines were developed from advice provided by the private sector and State and Local Government agencies including Queensland Transport, the Department of Communication and Information, Local Government and Planning, Main Roads, Queensland Rail, Brisbane City Council, Gold Coast City Council, Pine Rivers Shire Council, and the Local Government Association of Queensland.

Therefore, the Guidelines incorporate the wide range of expertise available in Queensland on:

- sustainable urban development;
- land use planning and urban design;
- transport planning (which reduces the growth in car travel and supports the effective operation of alternative modes of travel);
- plan making and development control decision making; and
- development and infrastructure planning.

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Preface

The Integrated Regional Transport Plan for South East Queensland (IRTP) maps out a solution for a better transport system by outlining the actions that State and Local Governments must take to meet the challenges facing the region over the next 25 years.

The IRTP highlights the importance of planning for a transport system which moves people more efficiently, supports economic development and reduces dependency on private motor vehicles.

The IRTP also promotes better designed neighbourhoods that provide easier access to public transport, and walking and cycling facilities.

Shaping Up is a signature project of the IRTP, aimed at improving the future planning of local communities. These guidelines provide ideas and opportunities for local government and land developers to achieve better designed and more livable communities.

Of course some of these concepts will be more applicable to “greenfield” situations than for use in “retro-fitting” older areas which had developed in ways that are now seen as less than ideal. In the latter instances, the “best” treatments, to apply now, may be different from the treatments one would apply if starting afresh. Nevertheless, these guidelines will challenge planners to find the best solution in any given situation.

Shaping Up has been developed by Queensland Transport, in partnership with Main Roads, the Department of Communication and Information, Local Government and Planning and the Local Government Association of Queensland.

Through the IRTP and initiatives like Shaping Up, Queensland will continue to prosper and grow, with our standards of livability and economic development enhanced by a well planned and sustainable transport system.

Bruce Wilson
Director-General
Queensland Transport