

Bus Services, Planning and Land Use

What is the role of Bus Operators and State Associations?

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- ▶ WHY CONTRIBUTE TO TRANSPORT AND LAND USE PLANNING PROCESSES?
- ▶ WHAT IS THE LAND USE PLANNING SYSTEM?
- ▶ HOW CAN INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS PARTICIPATE?
 - ▶ HOW CAN BUS OPERATORS PARTICIPATE?
- ▶ WHAT ARE LAND DEVELOPERS LOOKING FOR FROM OPERATORS AND ASSOCIATIONS?



Why Contribute?

- ▶ Our urban areas are shaped by many inputs including the planning and development system, populations growth, employment locations, disposable incomes, transport systems and networks and public policy.
- ▶ The urban form impacts on how we travel around our towns and cities and how you as transport operators move passengers and communities.

Why Contribute?

- ▶ Goal to build an integrated passenger transport network. This requires a closer linkage between how land is used (land use planning), how transport networks are planned (transport planning) and how people travel to their employment, homes and services (passenger transport network). The focus on Transit Oriented Development is highlighting this critical linkage.

Why Contribute?

The Land Use systems can impact on:

- ▶ How you run your business e.g. the types of uses that can be carried out at a bus depot, office or residential property or the parking of buses;
- ▶ How you carry out your business e.g. access to passengers through roads and land developments or unrealistic parking restrictions at destinations;

We all want safe and efficient passenger transport systems, by contributing early and with specific knowledge operators and associations can contribute to building better transport systems and better towns and cities.



Source: www.bucksherald.co.uk/news/more-news/bus-crashes-into-roundabout-in-aylesbury-1-3157514



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Land Use Planning

What is the land use planning system?

The land use planning system plans for and guides the development and use of land through planning policy and statutory documents. It does this at three levels which are similar in all states.



Land Use Planning

- ▶ Strategic Planning – long term state level plans e.g. 30 Year Plan for Greater Adelaide. Predominately undertaken by State Government with local council's also expressing aspirations of local communities in their own strategic plans;
- ▶ Policy Planning – Criteria that all development will need to address prior to approval e.g. Local Development Plans & Town Planning Schemes (or similar). Primarily administered by local government;
- ▶ Development Assessment – assessment of development applications and projects e.g. a new commercial building or residential area. Assessment of development applications predominately undertaken by local government.

Land Use Planning & Transport Planning

Land use planners, transport planners and transport operators all have a vested interest in better understanding issues with the movement of people to plan for, build and use better passenger transport systems.



How Can Industry Associations Contribute & Influence?

- Responding to State Level planning documents;
- Responding to Local Level planning documents and engagement processes and highlighting the specific issues of concern of operators. Local Government is 'generally' very receptive to working with local operators to deal with local problems;
- Best time to engage with Local Government is when they are undertaking consultation on a specific project e.g. Strategic Plan or Amendment to Town Planning Scheme.

How Can Industry Associations Contribute & Influence?

- Initiate an advocacy program to proactively influence and educate key agencies and professions in the land use planning and transport planning systems;
- Proactive approach will build relationships and educate professionals and officials about practical passenger transport issues;
- If the industry doesn't engaged with government then its particular issues may be overlooked in the multitude of other issues that government (at all levels) are dealing with.

How Can Operators Contribute & Influence?

- Engaging with their State Industry Association who will respond to State Level Planning documents on their behalf or directly responding;
- Responding to Local Level planning documents and engagement processes;
- Building relationships with local Councillors or staff to share knowledge with government about local passenger transport issues from an operators perspective;

How Can Operators Contribute & Influence?

- Responding to local development applications that impact or could impact on the successful operation of local passenger networks;
- Develop relationships with local council so they know to inform you of likely issues concerning passenger transport – role for State Associations to assist with this type of advocacy.
- Once governments (particularly local) know there is a body of knowledge to call upon they are likely to use it.

How Can Operators Contribute & Influence?

- Contributing to government processes is generally through making written submissions or attending information or consultation sessions;
- Submissions that highlight key issues and offer practical solutions as well as highlight potential problems are likely to result in changes or amendments to plans or policy;
- There is a potential role of the Industry Associations to prepare templates or key summary points that local operators can use to inform governments of key issues. This would also ensure a consistent message.

What are land developers looking for from transport systems?

- ▶ While influencing public policy or government is important there is another avenue of influence that Industry Associations and/or operators can consider and that is engaging directly with those who develop land.
- ▶ Land developer (or their consultants) design new subdivisions or commercial buildings/centres and their designs are what is ultimately constructed on the ground. So what are land developers looking for in terms of the movement of people?

What are land developers looking for from passenger transport systems?

- ▶ Larger land developer are looking to build 'integrated' developments where people will want to live (thereby getting the best price for their land). Community building is becoming a more common term and developers are aware that land purchasers are looking at more than just price, liveability is a key issue.
- ▶ Transport, access to transport (e.g. distance from a bus stop) and ease of movement are key components of this and an area where land developers may be prepared to engage with local operators or their representatives;

What are land developers looking for from passenger transport systems?

- ▶ Highlight key issues from an operator perspective and have them dealt with at the design phase.
- ▶ Must be recognised however that developers are always going to assess the cost vs. return of any design improvements.
- ▶ Industry Associations should consider engaging with developer interest groups like the Urban Development Institute (UDIA).

What are land developers looking for from passenger transport systems?

- ▶ Similarly commercial and retail developers want to design buildings or complexes that are easy for their customers to access.
- ▶ Bus operator experience in relation to car parking standards, sizes or time limits is 'hands on' knowledge that can be shared to assist in building more usable facilities in the future. This will also augment the technical standards used by professionals in designing or assessing developments.

Conclusion

A close working relationship with key figures and agencies in the land use and transport planning system offers an opportunity to educate them about 'Bus Industry' issues and maintain these issues current in the minds of policy makers and government.





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