

Name of policy:	Road Administration		
Adoption by Council:	24 July 2024	Minute number:	306/2024
Last review date:	May 2024		
Review timeframe:	4 years		
Next scheduled review date:	May 2028		
Related legislation:	<p><i>Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail Transport) Act 2008</i></p> <p><i>Heavy Vehicle National Law (NSW) No 42a of 2013</i></p> <p><i>Heavy Vehicle (Adoption of National Law) Act 2013</i></p> <p><i>Local Government Act 1993</i></p> <p><i>Roads Act 1993</i></p> <p><i>Road Transport Act 2013</i></p> <p><i>Transport Administration Act 1988</i></p>		
Associated policies/documents:	MidCoast Road Strategy		
Responsible division:	Infrastructure and Engineering Services		

Policy objective

The objectives of this policy are:

- To facilitate effective management of the local and regional road network for the safety and benefit of residents, businesses and visitors.
- To provide guidance to Council staff and the community relating to permitted activities, structures and use of public roads.

Policy statement

Council is committed to providing a safe and practical road network by effectively managing works, installation of structures and permitted uses within the road reserve. The *Roads Act 1993* provides the legislative framework for management of public roads and requires that any work on or over a road be first approved by the road authority.

Council recognises that inadequate management of the road network has the potential to lead to hazards to road users. These hazards could result in public liability claims or injuries and place a significant burden on the community. Council will manage the road network to minimise risks within the limits of the level of resources allocated to this function.

Coverage of the policy

This policy covers all public roads and associated transport asset infrastructure (bridges, footpaths, kerb and gutter, etc) that exist in the public road reserves that MidCoast Council is the appropriate roads authority.

MidCoast Council is the default roads authority for all public roads in its Local Government Area except:

- Crown Roads
- The Pacific Highway
- State managed roads – consisting of The Lakes Way (Breese Pde to Failford Road) and Failford Road (The Lakes Way to The Pacific Highway).

Strategic Plan link

Community Outcome 3: A thriving and strong economy

<p><i>3.3 our integrated transport networks meet the needs of our businesses and the community</i></p>	<p><i>3.3.1 Plan, provide and advocate for safe and efficient regional transport networks</i></p>
	<p><i>3.3.2 Design, construct and maintain safe and efficient local transport and mobility networks</i></p>

Policy content

Council’s responsibilities, in terms of managing the road network, are legislated by the following Acts:

- *Roads Act 1993*
- *Local Government Act 1993*
- *Road Transport Act 2013*
- *Dangerous Goods (Road and Rail Transport) Act 2008*
- *Heavy Vehicle National Law (NSW) No 42a of 2013 and Heavy Vehicle (Adoption of National Law) Act 2013*
- *Transport Administration Act 1988*

and guided by (but not limited to) the following procedures:

- Public Gates
- Road Naming
- Bus Shelters
- Roadside Tributes
- Closing Roads
- Paving, Kerb & Gutter Contributions
- Driveways
- Signage
- Heavy Vehicle Haulage
- Road Boundary Fencing
- Road Crossings – Services
- Road Reconstruction and Rehabilitation
- Street Lighting
- Grazing in the Road Reserve

- Trees in the Road Reserve
- Activities in the Road reserve

Definitions

Public Road: *is an area of land, commonly referred to as a road reserve, that has been dedicated to the public via relevant means for use as a road. Any member of the public has a right to travel along a public road at any time for any purpose. Council is the default road authority for all public roads in the MidCoast Local Government Area.*

Cycling network: *the network of bicycle path and shared pedestrian/bicycle path assets.*

Regional Roads: *a public road that has regional significance that has been identified and attracts additional funding from Transport for NSW (TfNSW). TfNSW is also a road authority for regional roads.*

Crown Road: *is an area of land allocated during original subdivision of an area as a crown road, often referred to as a paper road, but may also be constructed. The NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure is the default road authority for crown roads.*

State Road: *is a significant public road that has been classified by TfNSW as a State Road. TfNSW is the road authority. Council currently maintains the State roads in our area under contract to TfNSW.*

Responsible officer (position)

Manager Transport Assets