

Greater Launceston Metropolitan Passenger Transport Plan

Problem Identification Paper

Problem Identification

Transport is an essential part of our daily lives, supporting access to jobs, schools, shops and key services and enabling our participation in social and recreational activities. In cities across Australia, settlement patterns and the way we meet our transport needs have developed in tandem with increasing car ownership and use. For Launceston, this has encouraged low density, dispersed development patterns – designed around car use – and low use of alternative transport modes. The result is an over-reliance on private cars for everyday trips.

Private vehicles provide high levels of flexibility and will continue to be a dominant transport mode in the Greater Launceston metropolitan area and Tasmania in general. However, an over-reliance on cars generates problems that need to be addressed.

The *Tasmanian Urban Passenger Transport Framework* (TUPTF) outlines the State Government's approach to identifying and prioritising passenger transport problems in urban areas. It also provides the basis for developing solutions to those problems. Priority areas for action are:

- Encouraging the use of low carbon emission transport modes such as public transport, walking and cycling.
- Encouraging land use patterns that integrate with the passenger transport system to improve the attractiveness and effectiveness of public transport, walking and cycling options.

- Providing consistent travel times, in particular, the overall time of undertaking a journey (including waiting times), for all users of the transport system.
- Encouraging use of walking and cycling trips, either as part of a trip or for the total trip.
- Ensuring transport and land use planning systems are integrated and work together to support an attractive and effective passenger transport system.

Key demographic characteristics, settlement patterns and travel patterns for the Greater Launceston metropolitan area have been identified through the Background Report. These elements have helped shape the current transport networks and behaviours and will influence the opportunities available to mitigate problems associated with high car-reliance. These characteristics include:

- Population growth in outer urban areas;
- Low levels of population density;
- An ageing population;
- Areas of social exclusion; and
- Low levels of physical activity.

Global challenges that need to be considered in the context of problem identification and mitigation include:

- Transportation as a major contributor to greenhouse gas emissions; and
- Vulnerability to increases in oil prices.

A problem identification process has been undertaken using the following inputs:

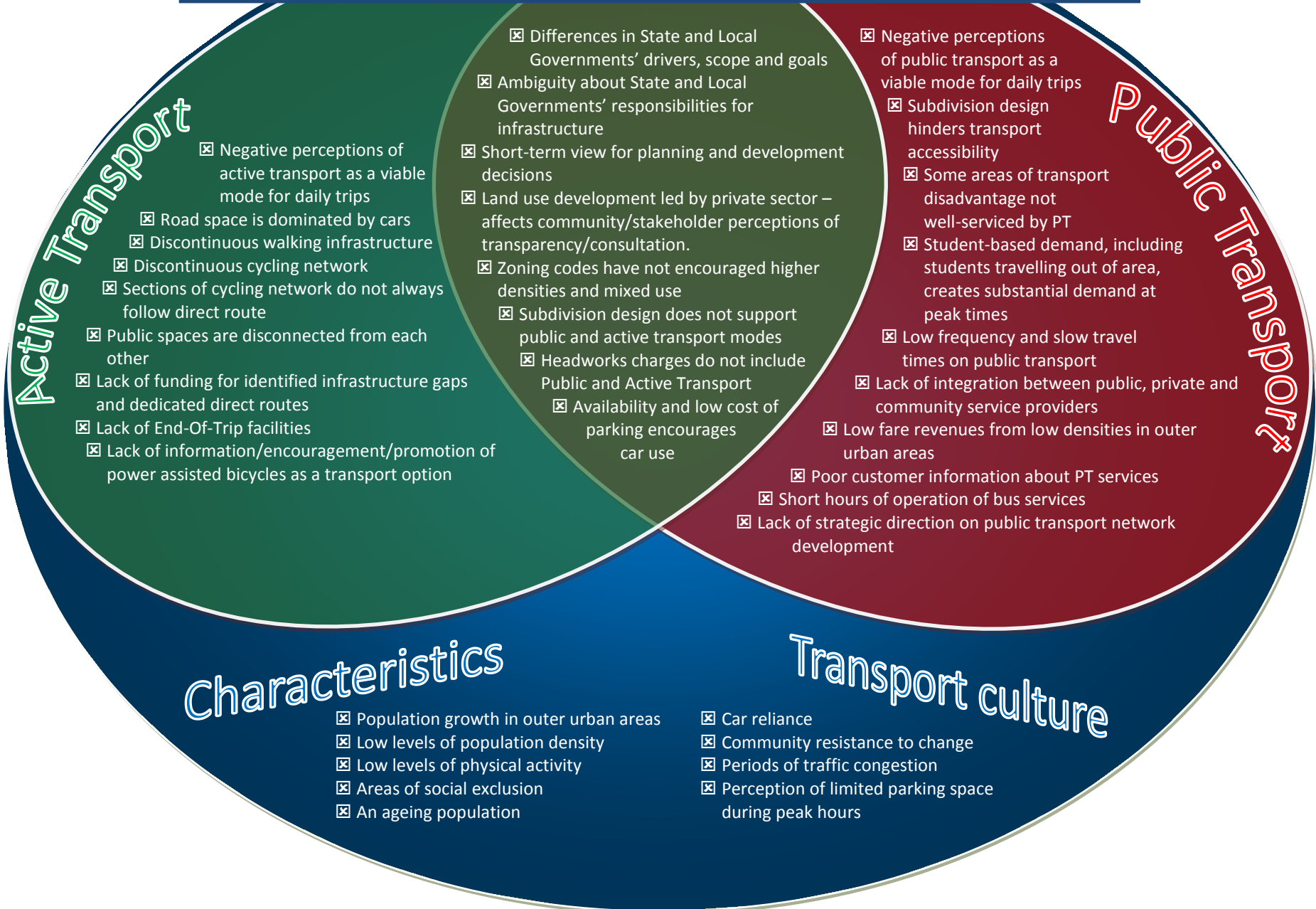
- Background Report – collated from a number of sources including the ABS, regional and local planning documents, local government strategies and plans;
- Stakeholder interviews – conducted with industry representatives and key interest group representatives;

- Input from Working Group Representatives – from DIER, local government and Metro Tasmania; and
- An Options Identification Workshop – with stakeholders representing councils, industry and key interest groups.

Key problems are represented in the diagram below.

Greater Launceston Metropolitan Passenger Transport Plan

Passenger Transport Problems





Tasmania
Explore the possibilities

**Greater Launceston Metropolitan
Passenger Transport Plan**

Passenger Transport Policy Division

Department of Infrastructure, Energy
and Resources

GPO Box 936, Hobart 7001

Ph: 1300 135 513