

Presentation to MIRRA

6 April 2024



MAGNETIC ISLAND TRANSPORT ACTION GROUP (MITAG)

Our objective is

to work towards Magnetic Island having reliable, resilient and sustainable transportation systems, both public and private, for residents and visitors.

<https://www.micda.com.au/transport>

WHAT ARE OUR AFFILIATIONS

We are a working group of MICDA which is a community group for all residents of Magnetic Island

one of 4 concentrating on decarbonisation and climate change

The other 3 are

- Energy or “Totally Renewable Magnetic”
- Water
- Waste or “Zero Waste”

Magnetic Island (Yunbenun)

as the leading sustainable Island community

WHO ARE OUR GROUP MEMBERS

We are individual community members with a range of expertise and lived experiences, who all align with the aspirations of our charter. All residents welcome to join and there is NO need to be a MICDA member.

Our members & stakeholders include representatives from

- MIRRA
- MINCA
- the general community
- transport experts
- QPWS, Townsville Council, local bus drivers & transport operators, and Community groups like Tourism Magnetic Island

WHAT ARE OUR PROJECTS

Long Term Aspiration

That Magnetic Island's transport system is reliable, sustainable and fit for purpose

Medium Term Aspirations

- That buses and public transport vehicles are EV (or hydrogen)
- That private vehicle owners are opting to go EV (or hydrogen)
- Encourage more pedestrian travel (ie walking trails)
- EV hire and/or or share cars for Magnetic Island

CURRENT PROJECTS

Aligning of Bus and Ferry Timetables

Issues

- We have discovered a glaring inadequacy in the bus procedures - busses are not reported/penalised if they miss ferry departure times.
- The current bus schedules are based on route travel times & routes which are not always suited for visitors and residents especially during high traffic density times

Our Actions

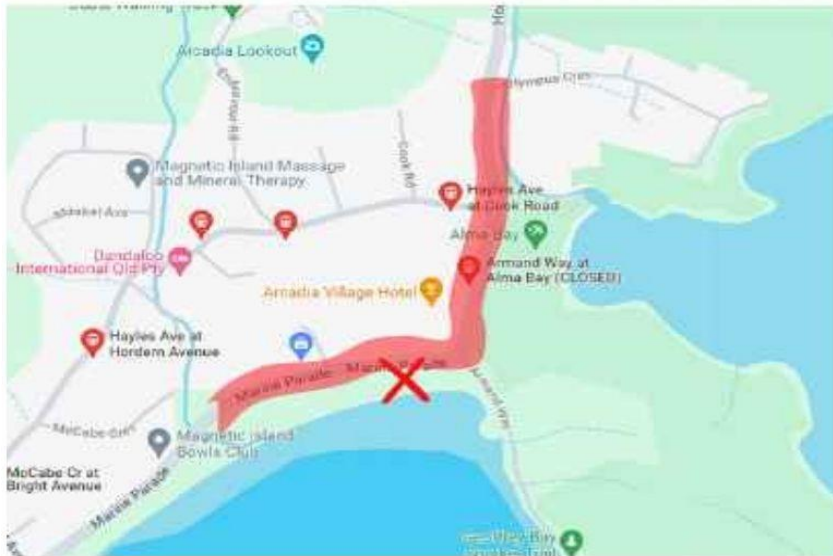
- We are liaising with Translink, Council & local community about bus routes & travel times issues.
- Sealink changed their 5 pm ferry to 5.10 pm to reflect current bus scheduling issues

CURRENT ISSUE - BUSES

- On a busy day 5 to 7 buses service MI. Run buses which are the route 250 buses (one North and one South) and 2 to 5 back up buses direct between Ferry terminal/Picnic and Horseshoe bays only
- Average passenger load is around 500 per bus on a reasonable day
- On a busy day passenger loads can be up to 1,000 people per bus
- The ferries (not barges) can bring up to 6,000 daily to the island.
- **smaller** buses might mean the fleet & number of drivers would need to increase and ticket prices might increase
- Buses using Hayles Ave: Council want this changed.
- Do the bus routes and timetables need review
- Closure of Alma Bay (known as Armand Way) bus stop

Re-open Armand Way Bus stop: Kinetic, Council & Translink. The blame game.

Temporary solution until turnaround on corner Armand and Marine is re-opened



Re-open Armand Way Bus stop for North bound back up buses and provide temp bus stop at suggested location X for southbound back up buses. Run buses (route 250) remain using Hayles Ave

Over Easter, the start of the busy tourist season, 5 buses carried about 4,000 passengers daily, all of which drove along Hayles Ave, due to the closure of the Armand Way bus stop. Safety concerns for buses, residents & visitors.

Temporary bus stops on Hayles Ave are unmarked & unsafe.

CURRENT PROJECTS

Ferry Charges

Our Actions

- We have surveyed comparable ferry and barge routes within Australia

Results

- We have concluded that the current charges are comparable to other ferries and barges - they are about average for comparable distances

CURRENT PROJECTS

Speed Limits

Issue

- Inconsistency of speed limits across MI
- There has been no full review of speed limits for over 20 years
- People and wildlife are at risk every day from speeding vehicles (including trucks, cars, bikes, scooters)
- Meanwhile our government has signed up to international obligations to protect our World Heritage Values (including fauna).

Action

- We asked TCC for a speed limit review: which we don't consider adequate so shall keep pursuing this with Council.

CURRENT PROJECTS

Alma Bay to Forts walking track - fill in gaps in existing tracks

Issue

QPWS /Council have a plan for a 'missing link' between Alma Bay & the start of the old Telstra track at Curlew Flats on the Armand Way/Horseshoe Bay main road. This is part of QPWS/Council overall walking trail vision for Magnetic Island & the Magnetic Island Tourism Master Plan.

<https://www.townsvilleenterprise.com.au/tourism/magnetic-island-masterplan/>

Action

Discussions with QPWS/TCC and MITAG about design, and funding for the project for a 300 M walking track to be constructed.

Magnetic Island Trails

VISION PLAN



https://www.townsville.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0027/72648/Magnetic-Island-Trails-Vision-Plan.pdf



-  Tourist destinations
-  Existing pathways
-  Proposed pathways and bush walking tracks
-  QPWS bush walking tracks
-  Bus stops
-  Telstra track

There is no direct link to the Forts Junction from Arcadia. R2 is the major missing link in the island's trails network, follow the old road corridor (known as the Telstra track) & a walking track from Alma Bay, Arcadia Village and a safe crossing for the Magnetic Island Road.



CURRENT PROJECTS

Horseshoe Bay Road pedestrian/vehicle interaction

Issue

Pedestrians are using HSB road to get to and from the Forts Hub, from both Alma Bay and HSB - ***significant safety risk***

Action

QPWS have agreed to install more signs on QPWS controlled sites and have created posters/social media

TCC have been requested to install signage on HSB road

CURRENT PROJECTS

E/V demonstration

Issue

Provide a visible practical demonstration of use of EVs on our roads

Action

Inception/concept discussions with an EV company for share cars/hire cars for Magnetic Island.

Future MITAG Projects and Ideas

- Low emissions ferry - Townsville as hydrogen hub
- Public transport like buses, hire cars and taxis to become EVs.
- Comprehensive walking trails
- Reduce road congestion - particularly from Alma Bay to Horseshoe Bay

FURTHER INFORMATION

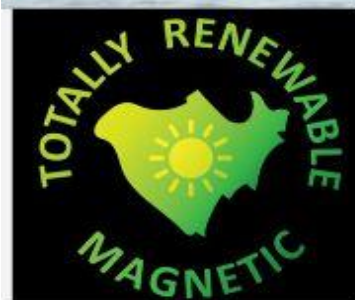
Please visit the MICDA page

<https://www.micda.com.au/future-groups>

for further information on MITAG and other working
groups



Community Working Group Meetings



ENERGY
Tues 16/4
7 pm

WASTE
16/4 5pm



WATER
Thurs 18/4
10 am

PLANNING
Wed 24/4
2 pm



MARINE
Tues 30/4
6 pm



TRANSPORT
Tues 23/4
4 pm

Aniko on 0400305714 or misdpc.coord@gmail.com
<https://www.micda.com.au/future-groups>

**THANK
YOU
FOR
YOUR
TIME**

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