

Submission to the Transport and Infrastructure Net Zero Consultation Roadmap



In July 2024, Cancer Council Australia completed a submission to the Australian Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (DITRDCA) who requested feedback on the Transport and Infrastructure Net Zero Consultation Roadmap. The Transport and Infrastructure Net Zero Consultation Roadmap was launched to outline potential pathways for transitioning to a net zero economy which aligns with domestic commitments to achieving greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets, reaching net zero by 2050.

Cancer Council's submission outlines support for action by the Australian Government to implement a national policy framework that promotes the adoption of active and public transport for the purpose of enhancing good health and wellbeing among the population as well as assisting in emissions reduction. We also expressed our concern regarding the established link between outdoor air pollution and particulate matter in outdoor air pollution and lung and urinary bladder cancers.

Our submission refers to existing evidence which supports the role of built environment attributes such as street-level features, dedicated walking and cycling paths, and safe road crossing infrastructure throughout the community, in encouraging active transportation among adults and children. We encourage the implementation of Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans which include convenient transport infrastructure development, promotion of transport modes enhancing physical activity and a shift of transport modes as an effective measure for increasing physical activity participation and preventing cancer, obesity and chronic diseases.

Cancer Council also encourages all Australian Governments to pursue action according to the recommendations within the National Obesity Strategy, including linking national strategies and priorities together, to reduce barriers to physical activity and for safer and more accessible environments which promote active transport as a mechanism for better health and transport emissions reduction.

Cancer Council urges the implementation of new policies and improved technology to reduce the amount of air pollution caused by road transport. We support the design and development of transport systems and networks that encourage a shift to sustainable, low emissions way of moving people and goods. This includes implementing international best-practice emissions reduction measures, emission standards and fuel quality standards. Additionally, we support the promotion, supply and affordability of more low and zero-emissions vehicles to the Australian market.

Cancer Council's submission will be made publicly available alongside information about the progress of the consultation on the DITRDCA's website: [Transport and Infrastructure Net Zero Consultation Roadmap | Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts](#).