

52.30 FREEWAY SERVICE CENTRE

Purpose

To ensure that freeway service centres are appropriately designed and located.

To ensure that access to a freeway service centre from a rural freeway is designed to the requirements of the Roads Corporation.

To ensure that freeway service centres provide only essential services and facilities which encourage drivers to stop and take an effective break at appropriate intervals along a rural freeway, in the interests of driver safety.

To ensure that any new freeway service centre meets an identifiable need to provide essential services and facilities along a rural freeway where those services and facilities are not readily available.

52.30-1 Requirements to be met

A freeway service centre must provide only essential services and facilities. These essential services and facilities must be available at all times. Essential services and facilities are:

- Designated parking areas.
- Undercover fuel sales area for petrol, diesel and LPG.
- Food and refreshment facilities, including an indoor sit-down eating area.
- An area of not more than 240 square metres for the sale of food, drinks and other convenience goods.
- Public toilets.
- A public telephone.
- Local and regional tourist information.
- An outdoor eating area.
- A safe play area for children.

A freeway service centre must not include:

- Mechanical repairs except for the emergency repair of vehicles.
- Overnight accommodation except for a caretaker or site manager.
- Retail facilities of more than 240 square metres.
- Gaming machines.
- Video hire.
- Post office services or facilities.
- Entertainment facilities or amusement machines.
- The sale, distribution or consumption of alcohol.
- Car or truck wash facilities.

An application to use or develop land for a freeway service centre must be referred to the Roads Corporation in accordance with Section 55 of the Act.

A permit must not be granted for a freeway service centre until approval for access to the rural freeway has been given by the Roads Corporation.

In accordance with Section 62(1)(a) of the Act, a permit granted for a freeway service centre must include the condition:

“This permit will expire if one of the following circumstances applies:

- The development is not commenced within two years of the date of this permit.
- The development is not completed within four years of the date of this permit.

The responsible authority may extend the periods referred to if a request is made in writing before the permit expires or within three months afterwards.”

52.30-2 Decision guidelines

Before deciding on an application, in addition to the decision guidelines in Clause 65, the responsible authority must consider:

- The State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies.
- The Freeway Service Centres Design Guidelines, May 1997.