



Purpose

The purpose of Move - Northern Beaches Transport Discussion Paper is to generate community discussion on our traffic and transport priorities for the Northern Beaches. It will also be used to engage with key transport stakeholders such as neighbouring councils, transport providers and State and Federal agencies.

The paper outlines how we intend to respond to some of the key transport challenges and opportunities facing our community now and in the future.

Your input will assist the development of a Move - Northern Beaches Transport Strategy 2038 guiding the provision of transport on the Northern Beaches in the future (20-years plus).

Using This Discussion Paper

We are interested in understanding your priorities for travelling in and around the Northern Beaches.

This discussion paper is structured around five discussion topics:

1. Integrating Transport and Landuse
2. Walking and Cycling
3. Public Transport
4. Roads and Traffic
5. Parking

Each topic has an objective outlining what Council seeks to improve, describes the challenges and opportunities, and outlines our key priorities.

We want your input to inform our future objectives and priorities for each topic.

As you read each topic, consider how you get around and how you use transport in your life for personal and work/ business purposes.

Council plays a pivotal role in making the Northern Beaches a better place to live, work and travel to.

Think about what is important to you, now and in the future, and how we can improve the transport network.



Overview

Our community and visitors want an efficient and sustainable way to travel to and from the Northern Beaches. These views were expressed over the last 18 months through the development of the Community Strategic Plan ¹.

Travelling around the area for social or recreation purposes - accessing local services, shopping, making deliveries and visiting friends is generally by car. Commuting for work or education purposes is also predominantly by car. Sixty percent of commuting trips in 2016 were made by private motor vehicle compared to 18% by public transport, and travel surveys indicate similar levels of car usage for getting around ².

The consequence is that our road network is congested and operating at capacity. The three roads that connect the Northern Beaches to the rest of Sydney - Mona Vale Road, Warringah Road and Pittwater Road via the Spit Bridge - carry the majority of inter-regional journeys for freight, commuter and personal travel. The area has no rail or tram options to move people faster and more efficiently.

We can encourage and support safer and sustainable ways of travelling within the area and encourage a shift in travel modes and patterns away from cars. These include supporting and encouraging more public

transport, dedicating more pedestrian and cycling paths, integrating on-demand transport links and community bus services, and providing more commuter parking options in and around our town centres and villages.

Changes in how we move around the Northern Beaches is urgently required to reduce traffic congestion. Council will work with NSW agencies and operators to improve provision, reliability and accessibility to public transport, infrastructure and change travel behaviours to more sustainable active travel options. Our future objectives, priorities and directions follow in this Discussion Paper.

¹ Community Strategic Plan Report to Council, 27 June 2017, and <https://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/communitystrategicplan2>

² Household Travel Surveys undertaken by the Bureau of Transport Statistics, 2012-13, and 2015-16 provide periodic information on purpose of travel, distances travelled, and travel time information for the Northern Beaches compared to other areas of Sydney. See <https://data.nsw.gov.au/bureau-transport-statistics>

Transport Insights

Travel times along local and major roads and on public transport on the Northern Beaches are currently amongst the worst in Sydney according to household surveys. Our traffic volumes show no sign of easing despite efforts to encourage public transport patronage.

Freight movement is also constrained due to the length of vehicles permitted on our major roads. This limits business growth and expansion of the Northern Beaches'

\$14.5 billion economy. According to a 2015 Infrastructure Australia Report, Northern Beaches' traffic congestion costs the national economy more than \$48 million.

Residents' travel by public transport is low compared to other parts of Sydney. Major bus routes operate on the north – south corridor (now via the B-Line services) that connect to feeder transport routes and commuter parking;

east - west services are operated by Transport NSW and Forest Coaches.

Harbour ferries operate between Manly and the CBD; local ferries connecting the western foreshores of Pittwater, Scotland Island and the Central Coast are used by visitors and commuters. While these options provide travellers with alternatives to cars, issues arise with the management of parking at interchanges in both the north and south of the Northern Beaches.

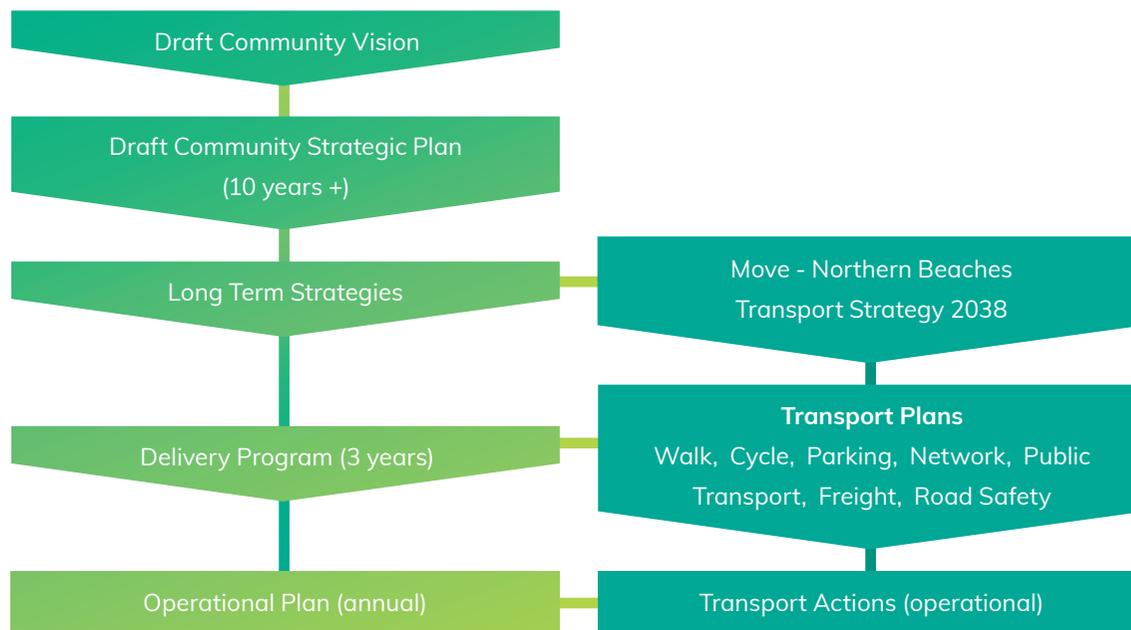
Our Plans

Your responses to this discussion paper will inform the development of Council's transport strategy - Move - Northern Beaches Transport Strategy 2038.

This strategy will provide a long term vision for transport on the Northern Beaches in response to your priorities. It will be supported by medium term transport plans for better integrating landuse and transport, and separate plans for walking, cycling, parking, our roads network and road safety.

Our planning framework provides a platform for achieving the community's vision for the Northern Beaches being "a safe, inclusive and connected community that lives in balance with our extraordinary coastal and bushland environment"³.

Figure 1: Relationship of Community Strategic Plan and **Move-Northern Beaches Transport Strategy 2038**



³ Community Strategic Plan SHAPE 2028 at <https://yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/communitystrategicplan2>

April 2018	May 2018	June 2018	July 2018	August 2018
Move - Northern Beaches Discussion Paper (this document)		Move - Northern Beaches Transport Strategy 2038 (Draft)		Move - Northern Beaches Transport Strategy 2038 to Council for adoption

Your Ideas and Feedback

You can assist in developing Council's Move - Northern Beaches Transport Strategy 2038 by telling us whether you support our future objectives and priorities in each topic in the Discussion Paper.

How you can get involved?

- Write to Council at records@northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au, and Northern Beaches Council, Civic Centre, 725 Pittwater Road, Dee Why, 2099.
- Complete the survey at yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au
- Attend a community transport event. Details of events at yoursay.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au