



Move

Northern Beaches Transport Strategy 2038 (Draft)



northern
beaches
council



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Message from the Mayor

Significant improvement is needed in the way we travel around the Northern Beaches and connect to Greater Sydney. Thanks are due to over 2,000 community members for your feedback on our *Move – Northern Beaches Transport Discussion Paper*. You wanted less congestion, convenient, fast and reliable options for public transport, and to walk and cycle safely in and around the area.



Our draft *Move - Northern Beaches Transport Strategy 2038* sets our policy directions for improving transport during the next 20 years. Our transport vision is to: ‘...enable freedom of movement to, from and within the Northern Beaches using a safe, smart, efficient, integrated and sustainable transport network’.

The strategy prioritises the use of rapid buses along our east-west and north-south transport corridors. It supports more options for walking and cycling between our homes, centres and recreation areas, as well as improving our regional connections beyond this area to Greater Sydney. Imagine a future where cars no longer dominate our roads, and parking and congestion are a thing of the past.

We are working in partnership with key state agencies, neighbouring councils, businesses and community groups to deliver these outcomes to radically improve our public transport, network infrastructure and regional connections.

This is *Move - Northern Beaches Transport Strategy 2038*, setting the priorities for our related transport plans for the next twenty years.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Michael Regan'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michael Regan, Mayor

Summary

A well-functioning transport network is vital to the Northern Beaches' future. Being able to safely and efficiently move people and goods supports the liveability and economy of the Northern Beaches.

Move – Northern Beaches Transport Strategy 2038

(The Strategy) is our vision for a safe, sustainable and smart transport network. It outlines our key Future Directions on transport infrastructure, reducing congestion and changing travel behaviour.

We are committed to delivering an efficient and reliable transport network and have included targets for improved safety; increasing public and active transport trips; reducing carbon emissions and trips by car.

The Strategy is structured on five Themes with each having up to eight Future Directions. For each Theme, Council has identified one Future Direction to progress as a matter of priority (see Figure 1).

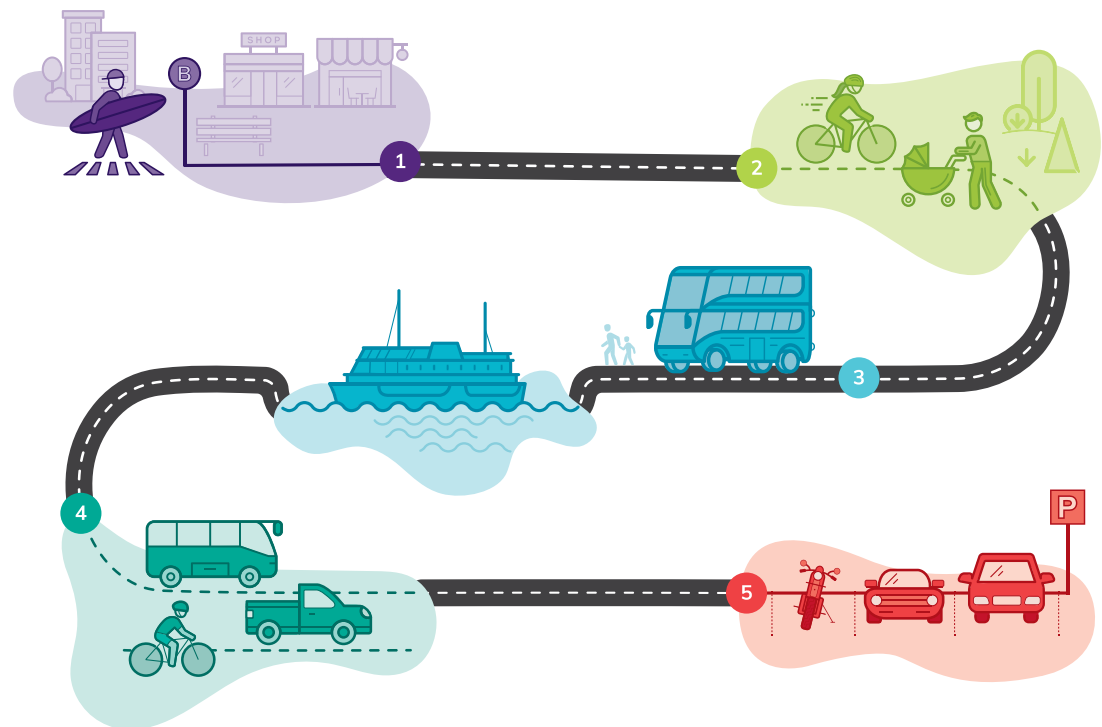


Figure 1: Key Themes and Directions

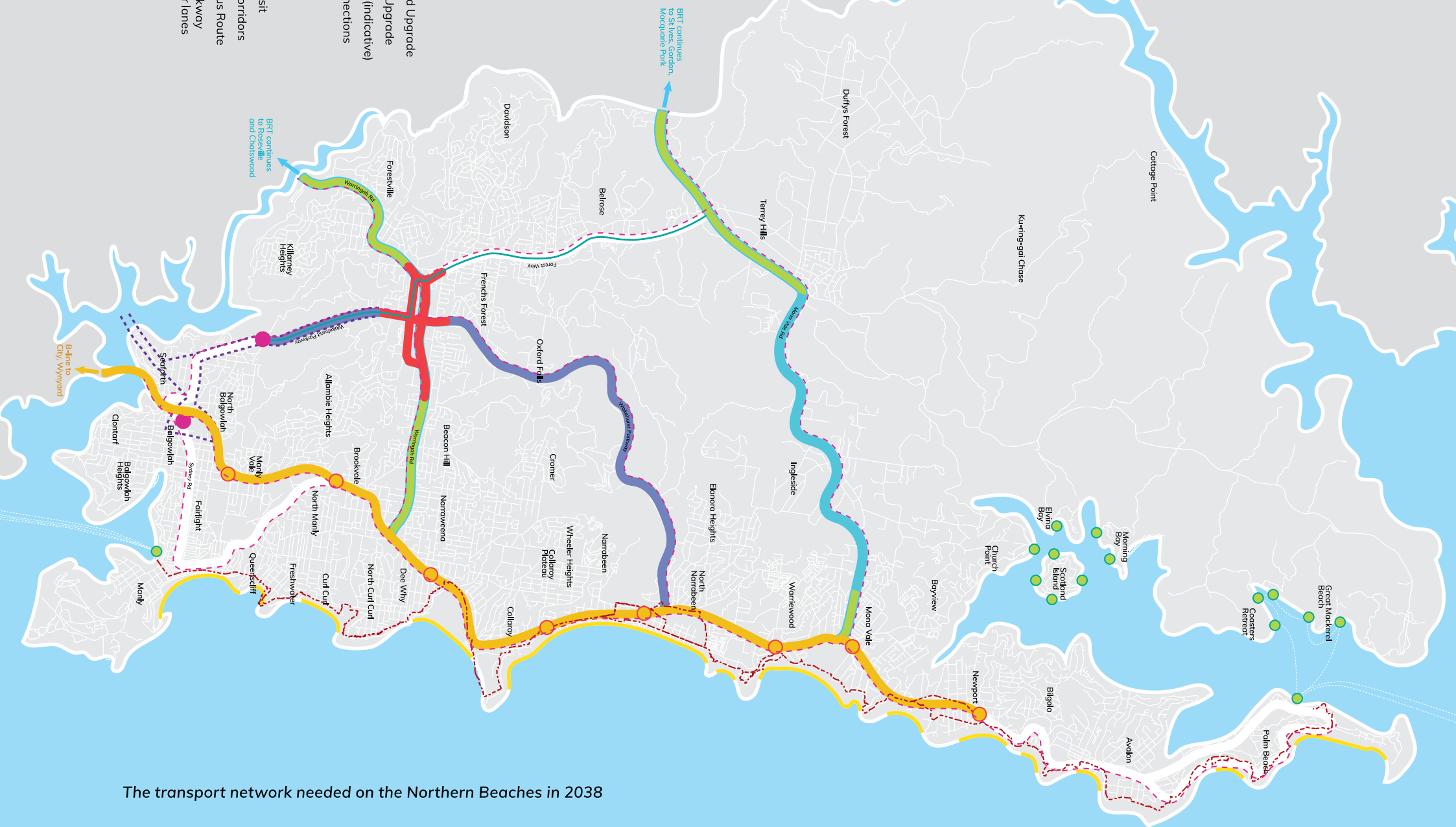
Theme

Key Directions

1	Accessible and Liveable Places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create and enhance “Places for People” that are integrated with public transport, creating vibrant, connected places with wide footpaths, safe cycling options and where the car is not the first option.
2	Active Travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prioritise smart, active travel network improvements (through technology, end of trip facilities and way-finding signage). Expand footpath and shared path networks to improve connectivity and safety, making walking and cycling attractive alternatives to the car.
3	Public Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partner with the NSW Government to implement a Bus Rapid Transit service by 2020 between Dee Why, Frenchs Forest and Chatswood; followed by services between Mona Vale and Macquarie Park. Plan for a high frequency mass transit service on the Northern Beaches in the longer term.
4	Efficient Road Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the delivery of the Beaches Link Tunnel subject to the inclusion of public transport and minimise overall impact on our local residents.
5	Smart Parking Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop local parking management plans for town and village centres including higher turnover parking in areas of high demand.



- B-Line Route
- B-Line Stops
- Mona Vale Road Upgrade
- Hospital Road Upgrade
- NB Tunnel Link (indicative)
- NB Tunnel Connections
- Coast Walk
- Ferry Stops
- Ferry Routes
- Bus Rapid Transit
- Active Travel Corridors
- Future Metro Bus Route
- Wakehurst Parkway Upgrade to four lanes



The transport network needed on the Northern Beaches in 2038

Our Plans

This Strategy provides a long-term vision (20 years) for transport on the Northern Beaches in response to your priorities.

It will be supported by medium-term transport plans (four years) for better integrating land use and transport, and separate plans for walking, cycling, parking, road network, public transport, freight and road safety. These plans are under development with timeframes for completion (see 'Themes').

Our planning framework provides a platform for achieving our 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'.

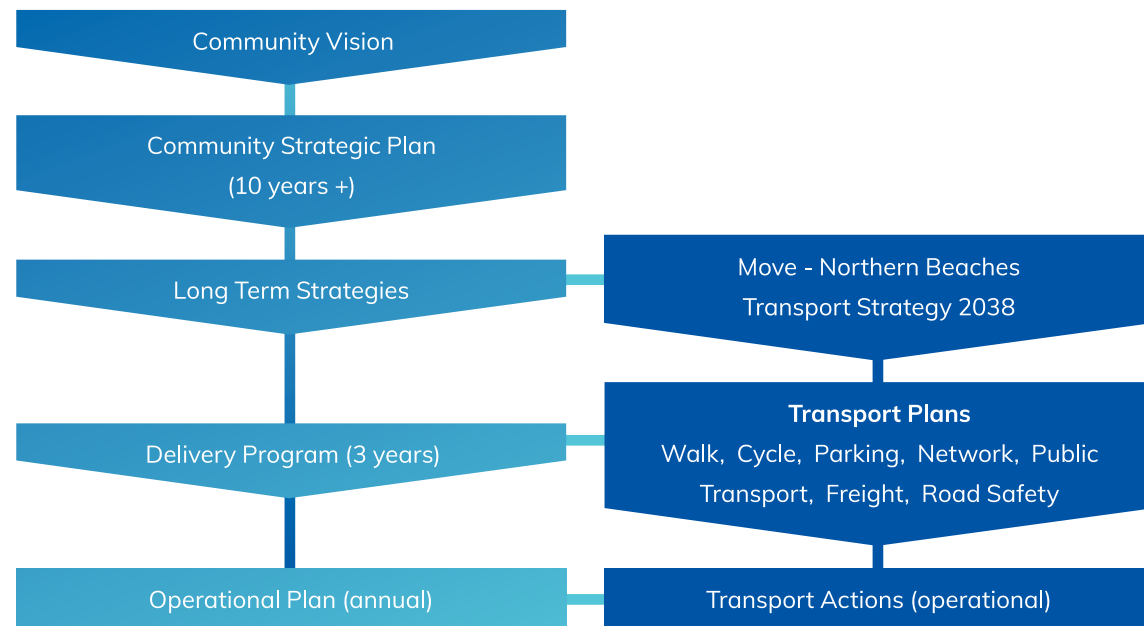
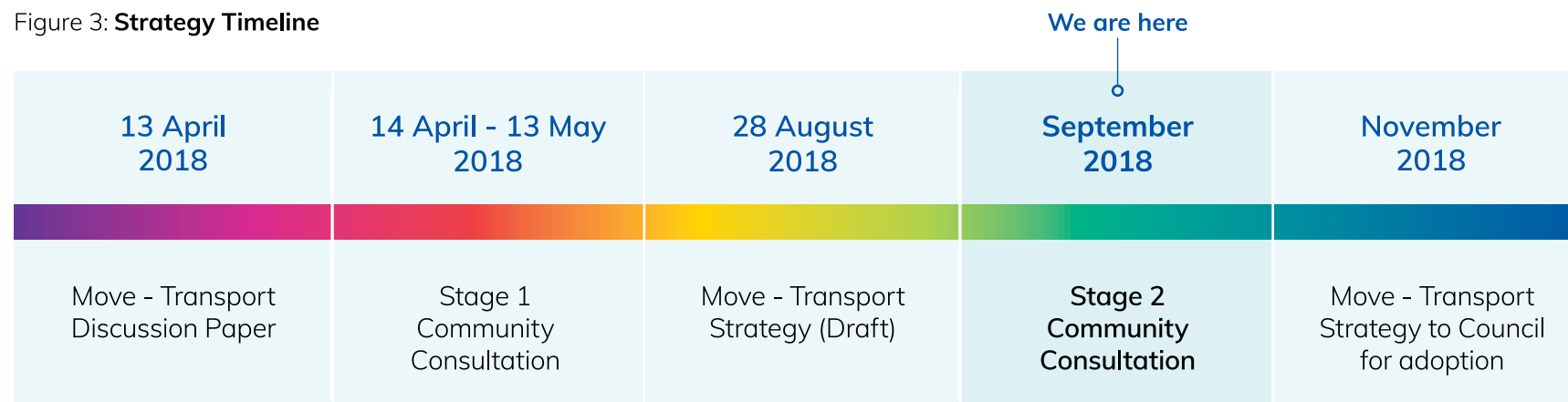


Figure 2: **Community Strategic Plan and Move - Northern Beaches Transport Strategy 2038**

Figure 3: **Strategy Timeline**



NSW Government Plans

The Strategy also complements the NSW Government's long-term land use and transport strategies for Greater Sydney:

- North District Plan, Greater Sydney Commission (GSC), March 2018
- Future Transport Strategy 2056, NSW Government, March 2018
- Greater Sydney Region Plan, A Metropolis of Three Cities Connecting People, GSC
- Greater Sydney Services and Infrastructure Plan, NSW Government



Transport Challenges

We face unique challenges in how we move around the Northern Beaches and connect with the rest of Sydney.

Growing Community

46,250

more people will live on the Northern Beaches by 2036¹. This is up from 251,700 in 2011.

22,400

more dwellings are required by 2036². This is up from 103,800 in 2011.

Our population is ageing and the transport network needs to accommodate increasing numbers of people who are less mobile.

Car Dependence

60% of residents travel to work by car³.

80% of household trips for social, recreation, education and shopping purposes are by car⁴.

53% of households own two or more cars compared to 46% in Greater Sydney.

Climate Change

30% of total carbon emissions are from transport activities with cars being 27% of total carbon emissions⁵.

Reducing carbon emissions is good for our health and environment. As a coastal and bushland community, small changes in our climate affect our liveability.

Congestion

\$48 million

was the estimated cost of Northern Beaches' traffic congestion in 2015⁶. The Northern Beaches' corridor was the tenth most congested corridor in the Sydney region in 2011, and predicted eleventh in 2031.

Just as important is the social cost on individuals and families from long commuting times.

Funding

\$10+billion

the cost of construction of the Western Harbour Tunnel and Beaches Link. This project requires planning approval.

\$7 million

the estimated annual net cost of the East/West Bus Rapid Transit service from Dee Why to Chatswood less fares per year.

\$100 million

is the estimated cost of works on Council's new footpath program.

^{1/2} Northern Beaches Area 2011 to 2036 Analysis, NSW Department of Planning, 2016 NSW Local Government Area Population and Household Projections, and Implied Dwelling Requirements,

³ ABS Census, Journey to Work, Northern Beaches area 2016

⁴ NSW Bureau of Transport Research, Northern Beaches Household Travel Trip Key Indicators 2015-16.

⁵ Council modelling, Kinesis data 2015-16

Visitors

4 million international and domestic visitor nightly stays⁷ and **1.8 million** domestic day trips a year⁸.

Tourism is an important part of the Northern Beaches' economy.

Over **1 Million** Ferry Trips through Manly per year.

Links with other areas

56,203 residents worked beyond the Northern Beaches in 2016⁹. They work in Sydney, North Sydney, Willoughby and other parts of NSW.

20,585 people travel to the Northern Beaches for work in 2016¹⁰. They live in Ku-ring-gai, Hornsby, North Sydney, Central Coast, Willoughby, Sydney and Parramatta areas.

Local Jobs

88,161 people work on the Northern Beaches with 76% being local residents¹¹. The top three industries in 2016 were health care and social assistance, retail trade and professional, scientific and technical services.

More local jobs, diverse industries and occupations reduce the need to travel outside the Northern Beaches.

Physical Activity

150 minutes per week is the recommended amount of physical activity for adults to reduce the risk of health problems (cardiovascular disease, diabetes and depression).¹²

Health issues associated with a sedentary lifestyle is on the rise. Increasing active travel trips is good for our community

⁶ Infrastructure Australia 2018, Infrastructure Priority List, Australian Infrastructure Plan, Project and Initiative Summaries, March 2018, p.66

^{7/8} Northern Beaches Council, Economic Profile, Tourism Research Australia

^{9/10/11} Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing, 2016 (Usual residence data)

¹² Australia's Physical Activity and Sedentary Behaviour Guidelines - Fact Sheet: Adults (18-64 years), The Department of Health Australia



“ Reduce car use, increase public transport use, increase bicycle use, increase awareness of residents for personal responsibility of transport mode choice and impact on community and individual.¹³ ”

“ Cheaper and more convenient public transport, safer cycling infrastructure and dis-incentives for drivers.¹⁴ ”

“ For me, it's about lifestyle. I want to be able to get around easily and quickly. I'd welcome a variety of different options for myself to get to work, my kids to get to the beach, or to catch up with friends in the city. I want to get around quickly, not hassle with parking or sit in traffic going nowhere!¹⁵ ”

“ Prioritise active travel and public transport over cars. Recognise that business traffic (vans and tradespeople) are stimulating the economy and when they are held up in congestion it costs the economy. Getting commuters and school run traffic out of their cars and on public transport (or active) will benefit everyone.¹⁶ ”

Transport Vision

Our Transport Vision is to “enable freedom of movement to, from and within the Northern Beaches using a safe, smart, efficient, integrated and sustainable transport network”.

- **Freedom** - having options and choice in modes of transport for all levels of mobility and available 24/7
- **Safe** - personal safety on the roads including whether people feel secure when travelling on the network
- **Smart** - leveraging new technologies to improve network outcomes as well as the adaptability, responsiveness and flexibility of the network
- **Efficient** - the network being reliable, convenient, dependable and timely
- **Integrated** - connections between travel modes for users as well as how places are designed with transport in mind
- **Sustainable** - a network that is good for the environment with lower carbon emissions, and for individuals offering incidental exercise as well as value for money

This vision was developed by Council's Transport and Travel Strategic Reference Group from stakeholder and community feedback to the *Move - Northern Beaches Transport Discussion Paper*.

It provides the basis for future directions, plans and actions that will be implemented during the next 20 years.

Aspirations by 2038

We have worked with our transport stakeholders to develop bold aspirations for our draft transport vision and improve outcomes for our community.

Progress towards these targets will drive the implementation of The Strategy. We also propose to report back to the community every five years with key data measuring our progress.

By 2038 on the Northern Beaches we aim for:

- A quarter of all trips by public transport
- Double the active travel trips; especially for households, commuters and school students
- Thirty percent reduction in trips by cars
- Thirty percent reduction in carbon emissions from transport
- Towards zero deaths on our roads

These aspirations are important to show how we are changing the way our community move and connect with Greater Sydney. It shows progress in achieving our transport vision and key directions in each of our themes

Reviewing the Strategy and Measuring Progress

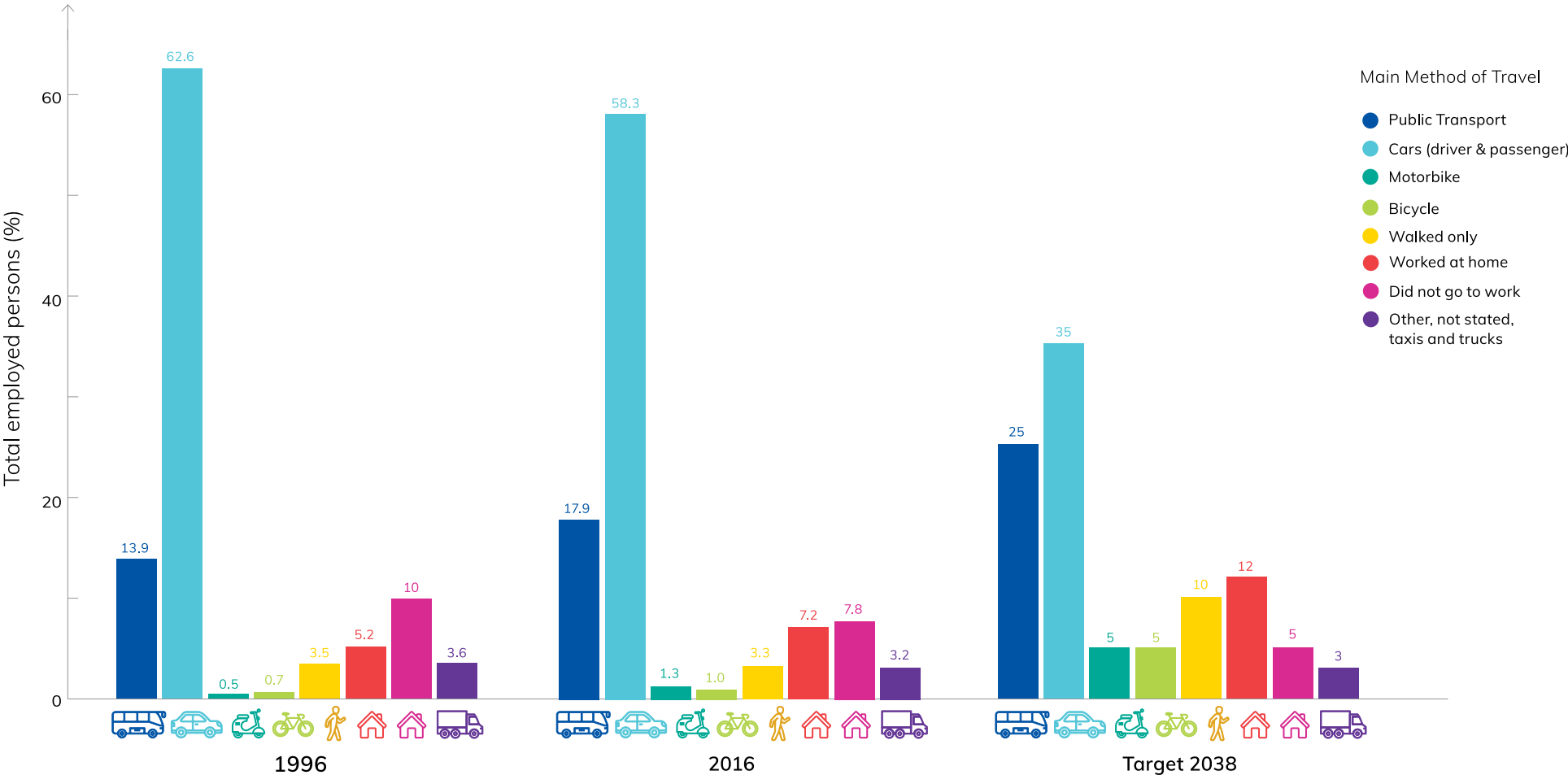
Council will report progress towards the aspirational targets every five years in step with the release of the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Census information. Key data sources include:

- Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census and Journey To Work
- NSW Bureau of Travel Research, Household Travel surveys
- Council using Kinesis data
- Surveys

While The Strategy has a long-term planning horizon to 2038, it will be reviewed every five years to ensure it continues to reflect the community's vision and the NSW Government's policy for transport on the Northern Beaches as well as changes in the transport industry.

Trends over time for the Aspirational Targets

Figure 4: Method of travel to work 1996 to 2038



Trends over time for the Aspirational Targets

Figure 5: Transport's Carbon Emissions (CO₂)

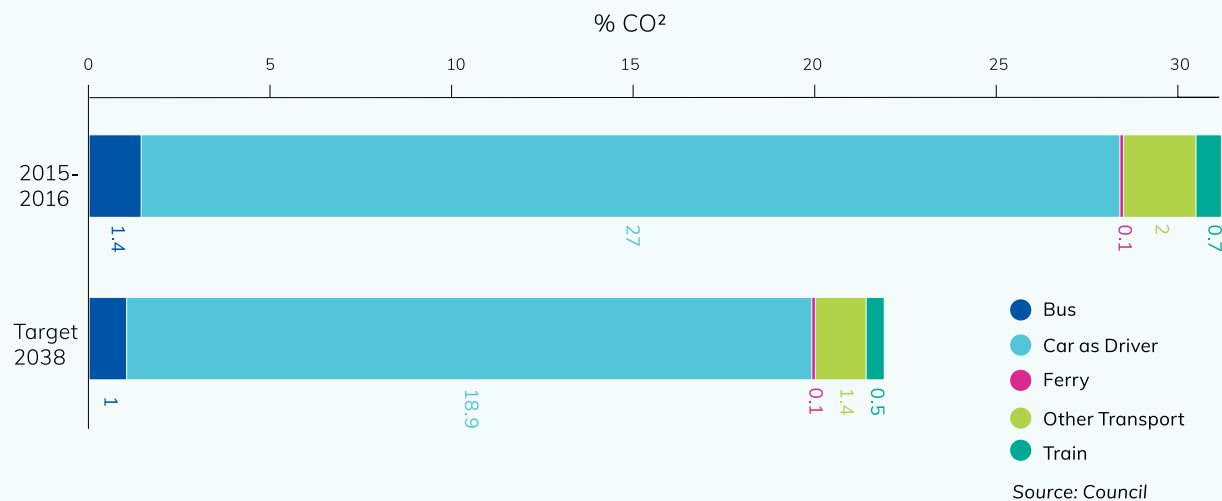
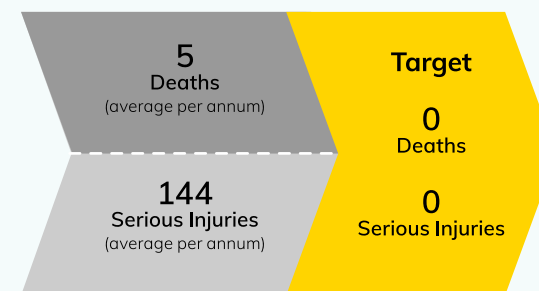
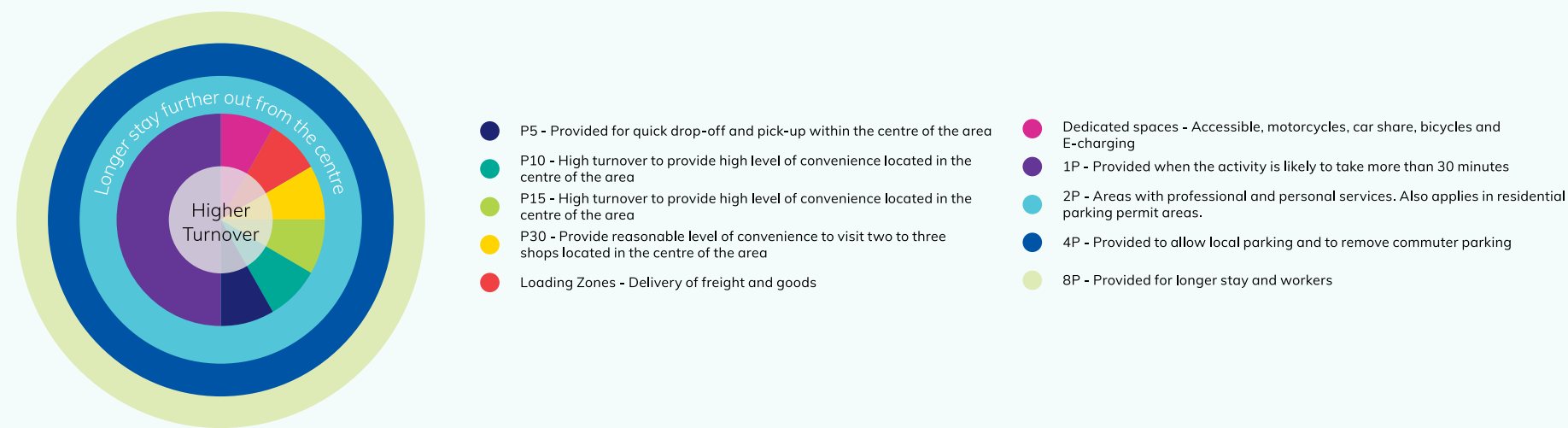


Figure 6: Road Safety 2013-2017



Source: TfNSW

Figure 7: Future Parking Approach





Implementing Move Transport Strategy

Move – Northern Beaches Transport Strategy 2038 will be implemented by Council in partnership with the New South Wales Government, the Commonwealth Government and the various industry and community partners.

The Strategy will underpin the seven plans that direct the delivery of the outcomes:

- **Walk** – Walking Plan
- **Bike** – Bike Plan
- **Park** – Parking Plan
- **Network** – Road Network Plan
- **Transport** – Public Transport Plan
- **Deliver** – Freight Plan
- **Safety** – Road Safety Plan

All these plans will be focused on a “Places for People First” ethos to enhance the Northern Beaches’ lifestyle.

It will be supported by a four-year capital works program of transport projects that will be reviewed annually.

Costs of implementing the strategy

The Strategy contains a balance of:

- Relatively low-cost, short-term actions such as a major bus route upgrade, improvements to footpath and cycle-way networks, allowing new transport platforms/providers entry into the network, and providing for the full integration of traffic management that effectively utilises our existing infrastructure.
- Major infrastructure projects (such as new light rail and metro rail systems and major road upgrades) that require substantial investment from the State and Commonwealth Governments in the medium-to-long term.

Funding options

Move – Northern Beaches Transport Strategy 2038 is not intended to be a fully-funded strategy. It is a vision to guide transport policy and prioritise investment in our transport network. The strategy will be used to assess funding needs and underpin bids for funding from all levels of government. New funding arrangements may be required to bridge the gap between available revenue and infrastructure investment needs.

This section presents
the **5 Themes** and
32 Directions



- 1 Accessible and Liveable Places
- 2 Active Travel
- 3 Public Transport
- 4 Efficient Road Network
- 5 Smart Parking Management

