

Planning priorities

Towards 2040 contains 30 planning priorities that will guide land-use planning and help achieve the Northern Beaches vision:

	Landscape
1	Healthy and valued coast and waterways Ensuring coastal areas and waterways including Pittwater, Sydney Harbour and Hawkesbury River and creeks, wetlands and lagoons, are healthy, resilient, valued and enjoyed by the community. Ensuring waterways are managed as part of an integrated system; connecting built, natural and cultural elements
2	Protected and enhanced bushland and biodiversity Protecting and enhancing bushland and biodiversity including local native plants, animals and ecosystems, including core habitat and wildlife corridors
3	Protected scenic and cultural landscapes Identifying and protecting unique scenic and cultural landscapes, especially views from the public realm. This includes escarpments, ridgetops, bushland, coastal headlands and beaches, waterways and buildings and skylines of scenic and cultural importance
4	Protected Metropolitan Rural Area Recognising the Metropolitan Rural Area as a buffer to our national parks, supporting environmental conservation, Aboriginal heritage, rural industry and lifestyle properties, recreation and tourism, critical infrastructure and employment
5	Greener urban environments Increasing the urban tree canopy and green cover as well as improving connections to green space as measures to build resilience to the urban heat island effect
6	High quality open space for recreation Improving the provision, diversity and quality of open space for recreation that meets the demand of new and growing communities
	Efficiency
7	A low-carbon community, with high energy, water and waste efficiency Reducing emissions and increasing efficiencies in managing energy, water and waste, especially in the built environment
	Resilience
8	Greater community resilience to natural hazards and climate change Building resilience in the community and natural and built environment and fostering connected and sustainable communities that are resilient to natural hazards and climate change
	Infrastructure and collaboration
9	Infrastructure delivered with employment and housing growth Providing new and upgraded infrastructure while also locating and sequencing new development in areas supported by infrastructure (e.g. public transport, schools and open space) for a strong and sustainable community. This will be achieved through partnerships across all levels of government, our community and stakeholders

	People
10	World-class education facilities, including a university Increasing local education opportunities including the establishment of a university campus in a strategic centre, to fill the gap of local higher education opportunities
11	Community facilities and services that meet changing community needs Planning for libraries, community centres, childcare, recreation facilities, healthcare and other services that are critical for our resident's quality of life. This includes shared and joint use and establishment of hubs (e.g. co-locating community services and facilities) in strategic centres
12	An inclusive, healthy, safe and socially connected community Supporting opportunities for healthy and happy communities that inspire social interaction, resilience and inclusion and improved health and wellbeing
13	Strong engagement and cooperation with Aboriginal communities Meaningfully empowering the Aboriginal community in the future of the Northern Beaches
14	An artistic, creative and innovative culture Supporting a network of arts, culture and creativity to promote social cohesion, reduce social exclusion and isolation and enhance community safety and the local economy
	Housing
15	Housing supply, choice and affordability in the right locations Planning for housing supply and choice in the most suitable locations to make the area a more affordable and liveable place for current and future residents
16	Access to quality social and affordable housing Working with NSW Government and stakeholders to address the limited supply of social housing and affordable rental housing on the Northern Beaches
	Great Places
17	Centres and neighbourhoods designed to reflect local character and lifestyle Enhancing local places through place-based design, design excellence, and building on valued local characteristics, village feel and local lifestyle
18	Protected, conserved and celebrated heritage Protecting Aboriginal and European heritage that contributes to the quality of the built and natural environment and community wellbeing
	Connectivity
19	Frequent and efficient regional public transport connections Delivering four frequent and efficient public transport corridors in and out of the Northern Beaches to reduce car dependence
20	Sustainable local transport networks Making it easier to walk, cycle and catch transport (e.g. local buses, Keoride, UberPool) to access centres and the regional public transport network (e.g. B-Line and ferry). It also focuses on using technology and innovative solutions to move around more efficiently with less impact on our environment

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Road space and facilities to match changing community needs

Using existing roads more efficiently to create safer environments, improve amenity and move more people, goods and waste within limited available space (e.g. more pedestrianised walkways in centres, dedicated bus lanes or separated cycle ways on key routes)

**Jobs and skills**

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Jobs that match the skills and needs of the community

Supporting more jobs closer to home that match the skills of residents thereby reducing the need to commute. It also supports innovative industry clusters that leverage off key strengths, such as tech and start-ups

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Frenchs Forest as a sustainable health and education precinct

Supporting Frenchs Forest in becoming a well-connected, great place to live, socialise, learn and work with a variety of housing and employment options integrated with the area's bushland character. It will be a low-carbon precinct, demonstrating best practice in energy, water and waste efficiency

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Brookvale as an employment and innovation centre

Supporting Brookvale strategic centre as an employment-based centre with a revitalised Pittwater Road, good walking, cycling and public transport connections, including green links to the bush and sea that make Brookvale a great place to live and work

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Dee Why as a thriving cosmopolitan centre by the sea

Supporting Dee Why strategic centre as a mixed-use centre by the sea. Improvements to Dee Why will support a mix of business, community, civic and residential uses as well as a vibrant night-life

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Manly as Sydney's premier seaside destination

Supporting Manly strategic centre as a well-connected cultural, tourist, retail and entertainment precinct that services residents as well as local and international visitors

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Mona Vale as the contemporary urban heart of the north

Supporting Mona Vale strategic centre as the urban heart of the northern peninsula. Mona Vale will continue to support a local, coastal character with a village atmosphere, and service our unique remote communities and coastal villages including Newport, Avalon and Palm Beach

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Safeguarded employment lands

Ensuring employment lands, such as industrial areas and business parks, are safeguarded from non-compatible uses and are utilised more efficiently

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A thriving, sustainable tourism economy

Supporting growth of a strong tourism and visitation economy whilst protecting and maintaining quality of life for the local community

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A diverse night-time economy

Improving the range of activities such as markets, galleries, theatres, restaurants and bars available in the evening or at night time with a focus on improved safety and social interaction across all age groups