5. Overview of our plan for the future

We need a transport system that helps build our economy, gives everyone access to the opportunities our city offers and helps sustain our natural environment.

Our transport vision

Our transport vision is that in 2031, the Gold Coast:

- enjoys smart growth
  - The majority of new development is based on compact, mixed-use centres that are focused on high-quality public transport.
- is a CONNECTED city
  - People and places are connected by an integrated, safe and efficient transport network.
- makes sustainable travel choices
  - A significant proportion of Gold Coast residents and visitors choose to walk, cycle and take public transport as part of their daily travel.

Achieving this vision will help:

- Protect our quality of life
  - The Gold Coast remains a beautiful, liveable city where it is easy to get around using a variety of transport options.
- Make our city more equitable
  - People of all ages and levels of mobility can move around the city without using a car, providing fairer access to everyday facilities.
- Strengthen our economy
  - Freight and business traffic can move freely, customers can easily access businesses and people can easily get to work.
- Protect our natural environment
  - We have a transport system based on sustainable urban design principles that reduces emissions and air pollution, and uses resources more efficiently.
- Improve residents’ health
  - Residents walk and cycle more as part of their daily travel.
- Develop a resilient transport system
  - Vulnerability to reduced oil supply, rising oil prices and climate change impacts is minimised.
Gold Coast City Transport Strategy 2031: Technical Report

**Challenges**
- A growing and multi-centred city
- Car dependency
- Energy, oil and climate change
- Physical inactivity
- Scarce funding
- Tourism and major events (including the 2018 Commonwealth Games)

**The Vision**
Our transport vision is that in 2031, the Gold Coast:

- **Enjoy smart growth** - The majority of new development is based on compact, mixed-use centres that are focused on high-quality public transport.
- **Is a connected city** - People and places are connected by an integrated, safe and efficient transport network.
- **Makes sustainable travel choices** - A significant proportion of Gold Coast residents and visitors choose to walk, cycle and take public transport as part of their daily travel.

**Objectives**
- Integrated transport and land use
- Car parking
- Public transport
- Active transport
- Roads and freight
- Travel behaviour change

**Integrated transport and land use**
To support well-designed urban development that reduces the need to travel and is easy to access via frequent public transport, walking and cycling.

**Car parking**
To manage car parking in a way that supports the economic vitality of the city and benefits sustainable transport use.

**Public transport**
To improve the quality of the public transport system so it provides an attractive alternative to the car.

**Active transport**
To provide a safe active transport network that helps make walking and cycling attractive alternatives to the car.

**Roads and freight**
To develop and manage an efficient road network that meets the city's needs for the movement of people and goods, and can be safely shared by all users.

**Travel behaviour change**
To reduce car dependency and significantly increase levels of walking, cycling, carpooling and public transport use.

**Themes**
- Develop new communities around sustainable transport.
- Encourage the development of strong centres.
- Promote future urban development in centres and along public transport corridors.
- Protect land close to freight routes for use by freight-generating businesses.

**Outcomes**
- Our quality of life is protected.
- Our city is more equitable.
- Our economy is strengthened.
- Our natural environment is protected.
- Our residents are healthier.
- Our transport system is resilient.

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**Figure 18 Overview of Gold Coast City Transport Strategy 2031**
By 2040 we aim for:

- provide additional time for travel behaviour as 2040 targets. This will allow investments targets have been reset achieve our vision for a sustainable city.
- challenging targets are necessary if we are to be ambitious and will require a considerable 2009 to approximately 9 per cent in 2031. This reveals that the constrained economic environment, and armed with the results of the additional technical work, this Gold Coast City Transport Strategy 2031 has developed revised transport targets for the city.

By 2031 we aim for:

- walking to be 8 per cent of all daily trips across the city
- cycling to be 6 per cent of all daily trips across the city
- public transport to be 12 per cent of all daily trips across the city
- car travel to be 74 per cent of all daily trips across the city.

The transport model predicts that public transport use can increase from 4 per cent in 2009 to approximately 9 per cent in 2031. This means that a target of 12 per cent by 2031 is ambitious and will require a considerable change in the way we travel. However, challenging targets are necessary if we are to achieve our vision for a sustainable city.

Connecting SEQ 2031 targets have been reset as 2040 targets. This will allow investments to be spread over a longer timeframe and provide additional time for travel behaviour changes to take effect.

By 2040 we aim for:

- walking to be 8 per cent of all daily trips across the city
- cycling to be 8 per cent of all daily trips across the city
- public transport to be 15 per cent of all daily trips across the city
- reduced use of cars by 16 per cent. This would mean the share of trips taken by cars would decline from 88 per cent in 2011 to 72 per cent in 2040.

The massive forecast growth in overall travel by 44 per cent (up from 2.6 million trips in 2011 to 3.7 million trips in 2031) means all our transport networks will be experiencing increasing demands. To achieve the targets, we need to plan and scale investments to meet the future task for each mode of transport. We must manage road space better, eliminate bottlenecks, invest in cycling and walking, extend the light rail network, improve bus services and improve the speed and capacity of the Gold Coast railway.

Our interim targets

The forecast growth in overall travel will significantly increase demand on our transport system within a relatively short period of time. To achieve the set targets, investments must be scaled to meet the future desired task of each mode of transport (see Figure 19 interim and future mode share targets).

Typically, Australian transport plans adopt the census year of 2016 as a target for changes in travel behaviour. With the Commonwealth Games being hosted on the Gold Coast in 2018, this transport strategy has adopted the census year of 2016 as a target for changes in travel behaviour. With the Commonwealth Games being hosted on the Gold Coast 2018, this transport strategy has adopted the census year of 2016 as a target for changes in travel behaviour. With the Commonwealth Games being hosted on the Gold Coast in 2018, this transport strategy has adopted the census year of 2016 as a target for changes in travel behaviour. With the Commonwealth Games being hosted on the Gold Coast in 2018, this transport strategy has adopted the census year of 2016 as a target for changes in travel behaviour. With the Commonwealth Games being hosted on the Gold Coast in 2018, this transport strategy has adopted the census year of 2016 as a target for changes in travel behaviour.
### Overview of Gold Coast City Transport Strategy themes

**Integrated transport and land use**

**Objective:** To support well-designed urban development that reduces the need to travel and is easy to access via frequent public transport, walking and cycling.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Develop new communities around sustainable transport.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Encourage the development of strong centres.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Prioritise future urban development as ‘transit-oriented development’ in centres and along public transport corridors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Protect land close to freight routes for use by freight-generating businesses.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Integrated transport and land use**

**Objective:** To manage car parking in a way that supports the economic vitality of the city and boosts sustainable transport use.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Manage the supply and location of parking within centres.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Improve parking efficiency through new technology.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Public transport**

**Objective:** To improve the quality of the public transport system so it provides an attractive alternative to the car.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Work with the Department of Transport and Main Roads to simplify the bus route network.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Work with the Department of Transport and Main Roads to progressively deliver a city-wide, integrated, high-frequency public transport network, consisting of light rail, heavy rail and rapid bus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Support the development of new park-and-rides for bus and rail passengers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Extend community transport options in areas of weak demand.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Integrate requirements to support public transport within other policy areas.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Active transport**

**Objective:** To provide a safe active transport network that helps make walking and cycling attractive alternatives to the car.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Develop a connected and accessible active transport network.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Coordinate active transport planning and funding.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Provide for mid-trip and end-of-trip facilities at key locations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Improve safety, standards and personal security.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Integrate active transport into the broader transport system.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Roads and freight**

**Objective:** To develop and manage an efficient road network that meets the city’s needs for the movement of people and goods, and can be safely shared by all users.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Plan and manage the Gold Coast road network as ‘one network’, regardless of ownership.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Plan, invest in and manage the road network to provide a match between the transport function of each road with the places it goes and the users who need priority.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Make the most of existing infrastructure and promote greater use of public transport and active transport.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Improve the legibility of the Gold Coast road network so motorists take preferred traffic routes and avoid unnecessary trips through activity centres, strip shopping areas and beachside areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Provide adequate loading zones and off-street loading facilities for freight.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Maintain the local road network to a high standard.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Changing travel behaviour**

**Objective:** To reduce car-dependency and significantly increase levels of walking, cycling, carpooling and public transport use.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Expand Council’s Active Travel initiatives, targeting schools, workplaces and communities.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Table 5-1 List of Gold Coast City Transport Strategy 2031 themes**

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What is your transport vision for the Gold Coast?

For me, it’s about lifestyle. I don’t want a car-choked city. I want a city that’s easy to get around, with reliable public transport, good footpaths and more people on bikes.

Fiona Austen with Byron and Amelie, Palm Beach