



Ms Eleni Petinos MP
Parliamentary Secretary for Transport and Roads

Our Ref: 01051901

Mr Stephen Hodge, Dr Ben Beck and Professor Rebecca Ivers
stephen@weride.org.au

Dear Mr Hodge, Dr Beck and Prof Ivers

Thank you for your correspondence to the Minister for Health and Medical Research, which was referred to the Minister for Transport and Roads, about walking and cycling infrastructure. The Minister has asked me to respond on his behalf.

As you are aware, more people than ever are walking or cycling to work or for leisure and fitness. The NSW Government continues to encourage people to walk and cycle as part of their everyday commute. We recognise that not only does it help relieve pressure on our roads and public transport system, but walking and cycling are healthy, active ways of travelling. By continuing to invest in the construction of new separated paths and infrastructure, we help keep people safe while encouraging more individuals to take up these modes of travel.

You may be interested to know that, thanks to the NSW Government's strong economic management, approximately \$600 million will be invested into walking and cycling infrastructure over the next four years. This will bring the NSW Government's total investment to around \$1 billion – the largest commitment in the State's history.

The NSW Government is focused on cycling projects in line with the *Future Transport 2056* strategy. This strategy identifies the NSW Government's 40-year vision for transport planning to meet the demands of the predicted population growth in NSW. It prioritises the delivery of connected cycling networks within 10 kilometres of metropolitan city centres by 2026, and within five kilometres of strategic centres by 2036.

In response to the coronavirus pandemic, the NSW Government is working with councils to establish temporary initiatives throughout Greater Sydney to give the community more options to safely walk, cycle and commute to work. In May 2020, the NSW Government announced an initial series of new pop-up cycleways in key commuter areas and temporary 40 km/h speed zones in the City of Sydney Local Government Area to improve safety and reduce crowding on public transport.

The NSW Government will monitor these pop-up solutions and work with other councils across Sydney to identify hot spots where we can place temporary measures to ensure customers can safely distance themselves. You may be assured that there are a number of other pop-up cycleways in development. The NSW Government will update the community on these initiatives in due course.

As part of the NSW Government's new \$15 million Streets as Shared Spaces program, councils will be able to apply for grants of up to \$100,000 for immediate temporary projects, such as widening footpaths and cycle links. Grants of up to \$1 million for medium-term pilot projects, such as extra crossing points, wider kerbs and trialling lower speed limits, will also be available. Please visit dpie.nsw.gov.au/streets for more information.

Transport for NSW will continue to look at ways to support customer and staff health and safety. For more information on how Transport for NSW is helping people to travel safely during the coronavirus pandemic, please visit transportnsw.info/covid-19.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Eleni Petinos', enclosed in a blue rectangular box.

03/06/2020

Eleni Petinos MP
Parliamentary Secretary for Transport and Roads