

# Safer Cities: Her Way Program

## Frequently asked questions

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### What is the Safer Cities: Her Way program?

Safer Cities: Her Way (Her Way) is a collaborative program between Transport for NSW and pilot councils across NSW to create and test positive long-term change in public space through demonstration projects.

Her Way trials concepts that improve perceptions of safety and explore ways to unlock more (new), better (improved quality) and activated (the number of people regularly using the place) public space. Councils develop temporary demonstration projects that reflect local place identity, character and needs, and use short-term, scalable, lower-cost methods to test concepts for future permanent change.

Demonstration projects are a form of temporary intervention. They use short-term, tactical methods to test projects quickly, create neighbourhoods and enliven public spaces. Councils can try out ideas with pilots, pop-ups, short-term treatments and semi-permanent changes. These temporary projects respond to an immediate need, as well as create an evidence-base of benefits to help build the case for longer-term change.

### Why is Transport for NSW sponsoring the Her Way projects?

Her Way focuses on collaborating with councils and state agencies on public space demonstration projects. These projects aim to engage the community and create safer public spaces across NSW. Her Way projects are small in scale, but with big impact.

Her Way is one part of the Safer Cities program which is investing \$30 million over two years to improve safety in our cities and towns, particularly for women, girls and gender diverse people. The aims for the Safer Cities program, based on the United Nations Safer Cities for Girls program are:

- Increase women, girls' and gender diverse people's safety and access to public spaces
- Enable women, girls and gender diverse people to move freely and alone in their community
- Increase women, girls' and gender diverse people's engagement with how the spaces around them are designed and managed.

Transport for NSW and councils will make lessons from the Her Way projects publicly available as case studies on our public Great Public Spaces Toolkit case studies webpage. We will promote the case studies to councils, government agencies and industry to support public space improvement projects across NSW.

Her Way also uses the Evaluation Tool for Public Space and Public Life before, during and after the demonstration projects. Transport for NSW has developed this free tool to help evaluate what is working well and what could be improved in any given public space.

## Where are the Her Way program projects?

We're working closely with partner councils across Sydney and regional NSW on Her Way demonstration project partnerships.

The partner councils include:

- Blacktown City Council
- Bayside Council
- Central Coast Council
- City of Canterbury Bankstown
- City of Sydney
- Cumberland City Council
- Fairfield City Council
- Griffith City Council
- Lismore City Council
- Wollongong City Council

As a part of the project site selection process, councils will conduct engagement such as co-design workshops with local women, girls and gender diverse people to define where the projects will be located and what interventions will be trialled.

## How did Transport for NSW choose councils for the projects?

Councils were selected based on criteria focussed on improving the perceptions of safety of women, girl' and gender diverse people in public spaces, and centred around the following themes:

- Planning and Economy
- Safety
- Active Transport
- Culturally and Linguistically Diverse communities
- Environment

Selected councils were also assessed to ensure strategic alignment with the Safer Cities program. Review was undertaken to confirm councils' strategic priorities aligned to the program's outcomes and themes of safety, walkability, and access to public space.

As a result, the selected councils span across the six cities and regional areas of NSW each with differing demographics and sociocultural

environments, and therefore, provide unique opportunities to improve mobility and access for women, girls and gender diverse people.

## What is Transport for NSW contributing financially to the Her Way projects?

Council partners develop temporary demonstration projects that use short-term, scalable, lower cost methods to test concepts for future permanent change, in line with a 'lighter, quicker, cheaper' approach.

Transport for NSW is contributing up to \$1 million to each for the listed participating councils, with project deliverables defined in the funding deeds with each council.

## When will the Her Way projects start and finish?

Project milestones are unique to each of the projects and the unique place-based approach for each council. In general, project planning for round one projects began in November 2022, with projects to be completed by mid-2024. This includes planning, design, construction, installation, engagement and co-design activities, activation/programming and case study development.

Each council follows its internal procedures to consult the community and stakeholders so that residents, businesses and other stakeholders are informed of the project planning, launch, activation and completion.

## Find out more

For more information about Her Way email the team at [SaferCities@dpie.nsw.gov.au](mailto:SaferCities@dpie.nsw.gov.au)

To find out more about the projects the team is working on, visit the [Safer Cities website](#)