

Shared Transport Policy

July 2019

Responsible Officer

Executive Manager, Transport and Civil Infrastructure

Review Date

1 May 2021



northern
beaches
council

Purpose of Policy

To provide wide ranging Shared Transport systems that integrate effectively within the Northern Beaches Local Government Area (LGA) minimising disturbance and safety hazards to the public now or into the future.

Council intends these systems to provide improved transport outcomes and to be increasingly adopted by the local community through the growth of service areas.



Policy Statement

Council is committed to ensuring that the transport needs of our Northern Beaches community are met now and into the future. Council has developed a broad Transport Strategy to inform the future direction of Service and Infrastructure provision for the Community of the Northern Beaches.

This is reflected through Council's transport vision to enable freedom of movement to, from and within the Northern Beaches using a safe, smart, efficient and integrated and sustainable transport network.

Objectives of the policy

- Support the implementation of well-managed, accessible Shared Transport schemes that integrate effectively with the transport network, encourage healthy lifestyle and provide alternative transport and accessibility options for residents and visitors alike.
- Provide the policy that enhances the provision of Bike Sharing, Car Sharing, On-Demand Transport schemes and new shared transport innovation.
- Establish minimum standards through the development of Guidelines to support the current and future services of Bike Sharing, Car Sharing, On-Demand Transport schemes and new shared transport innovation approved for public use.
- This will also include standards for Council for the administrative support of growing and approving Shared Transport networks as may be required by future measures of demand.
- Provide a systematic framework for Shared Transport management to reduce street clutter, dumping of bikes or the illegal parking of vehicles in inappropriate areas or other safety issues caused due to unregulated Shared Transport schemes. This framework will also provide the direction for the allocation of road reserve space, parking allocation and other infrastructure required to efficiently and safely provide the services for the community.
- Overall increase the adoption of these modes amongst the local community and set guidelines for Council to work with operators to grow these services in line with increasing demand.

Council's Role

Council understands the benefits of Shared Transport schemes in the community. Each Shared Transport service has unique attributes that have a range of impacts on travel behaviour, the environment, and the development of town centres and residential areas.

Some impacts of Shared Transport include enhanced transportation accessibility as well as reduced driving and decreased personal vehicle ownership.

Shared Transport schemes often yield a variety of environmental, social, and transportation system benefits. These are primarily related to personal vehicle usage, ownership and vehicle kilometres travelled (VKT).

Shared Transport networks also retain the potential to expand the reach of public transportation by addressing gaps in existing public transportation systems. They can also provide economic benefits to users in the form of cost savings in some cases.

As such Council will work with operators to support Shared Transport schemes within the LGA and ensure a fair and equitable market is in place for operators, while also protecting the interests of the local community and ensuring continuation and growth of services to local residents who choose to use shared transport.

- Council will develop and adopt guidelines for specific shared transport schemes prior to the implementation of that scheme.
- Council will impartially enforce guidelines and minimum standards of operators.
- Council may choose to set adoption targets for some modes of shared transport as appropriate including encouraging local residents to adopt shared transport if appropriate.
- As the local authority Council will work with operators of each mode to ensure suitable provision of space or permitted size of networks to meet demonstrated demand for the services and grow services as may be needed.
- Council will work with operators to see expansion of services to new areas which may meet qualifying demographic or usage characteristics.
- Council will support multiple operators of Shared Transport schemes providing there is proven market demand and support from the community. This will allow for schemes to be established within local communities by individual operators.
- Council will consider both Fixed and Floating Shared Transport schemes to provide for flexibility across differing legislation relating to Shared Transport Schemes.

Shared Transport Management

Eligibility of Operator

Any operator wishing to operate within the Northern Beaches LGA must engage with council prior to beginning its operation.

The eligibility of an operator will be determined through an evaluation of the proposed service and benefit to the area in which the interested operator plans to provide the service. The prospective operator is to provide Council with all relevant documentation that demonstrates how the proposed scheme adheres to relevant guidelines and legislation.

Obligation of Operator

It is the operator’s responsibility to abide by the relevant Northern Beaches Council Guidelines in order to lawfully operate within the Northern Beaches Local Government Area.

The operator(s) shall provide anonymised data of every journey using open data standards.

Council has the right to move, impound, or fine any dangerously placed, or illegally parked bike, device or vehicle around the Northern Beaches. [Impounding Act 1993 No 31: Impounding Amendment (Shared Bicycles and Other Devices) Act 2018, Road Act 1993, Road Rules 2014 and the related regulations].

Councils and public landholders reserve the right to evaluate whether a fee or levy structure may be implemented so that operators make a financial contribution toward the provision of infrastructure. (Roads Act 1993).

Innovation

Northern Beaches Council as a leader in the Transport area will engage with other agencies to enable trials of new systems and technology as it becomes available to enable our community move around the Northern Beaches using an integrated transport system.

References and related documents

- Local Government Act 1993, Office of Local Government, NSW Government
- Impounding Act 1993 No 31- Impounding Amendment (Shared Bicycles and other Devices) Bill 2018
- Roads Act 1993, NSW Government
- Road Rules 2014, NSW Government
- RMS Technical Direction – Traffic and Transport: Guidelines for on-street and fixed space car share parking



Definitions

Shared Transport	refers to the shared used of a vehicle, bicycle, or other transportation mode. It is a mode of travel which allows members to access transport services on an as-needed basis. Shared Transport is an umbrella term that encompasses a variety of transportation modes including car sharing, Micro-mobility Share peer-to-peer ridesharing and on-demand ride services.
Micro-mobility Share	Micro-mobility share refers to the sharing and use of micro-mobility vehicles as a mode of transport, provided by an independent operator selected by the council for the Northern Beaches area. Example: bike share schemes.
Car Share	Car sharing is a service that provides members with access to a vehicle for short-term use. Example: GoGet.
Ride Sharing	is where two or more people decide to share a ride between common points or components of a journey which may be common. Example: Uber Pool.
On-Demand Services	Point to Hub or Point to Point services run as a feeder service to major transport service point as a “first and last mile” style service. Example: Keoride or Ride plus.
Fixed sharing scheme	refers to designated parking spaces for vehicles or docking stations for bikes. Example: marked car share parking spaces.
Floating sharing scheme	refers to parking areas which are not fixed and shared vehicles, bikes can be left anywhere where legally permissible. Example – floating car share parking spaces in Manly Residential Parking Permit Scheme areas
Operator	company/business that is responsible for the supply, installation, management and maintenance of the shared transport service
Customer	any member of public that uses or has any issues with the operators of an approved shared transport service or device
Council	referring to the Northern Beaches Council
Public Landholder	listed company or public unit trust scheme that owns the land (NSW Government, 2017). This may include but not limited to; Roads and Maritime (RMS), National Parks and Wildlife Service and Transport for NSW.



northern
beaches
council