

3 Vision, Goals and Strategies for Cycling

This chapter describes the Council's vision for cycling on the North Shore, the goals to be achieved and the strategies to be implemented.

Vision

The Council's overall vision for cycling is:

“To provide a safe, convenient and enjoyable cycling environment that meets the needs of cyclists and encourages cycling as a mode of transport and as a means of recreation.”

Goals

The vision is underpinned by five goals:

Goal 1 To increase the number of people cycling to work

The number of people cycling to work has been steadily decreasing. This contributes to car congestion on our roads and increased demand for car parking. In line with the regional policy, the **target** is to reverse this trend and to double the proportion of people cycling to work by 2013 (compared to 2001 census data and taking population growth into account).

Goal 2 To increase the number of children cycling to school

The number of children cycling and walking to school has decreased over the last decades as well. 40% of all trips are education related and contribute to car congestion. In particular congestion at the school gate has become more and more a problem. North Shore City is taking a leading role in the development of school travel plans, which includes promoting cycling.

The **target** is to double the proportion of children cycling to school by 2013.

Goal 3 To improve safety for cyclists

The community should be confident that cycling is a safe choice for transport and recreation. Over the last 5 years (1997–2001) 149 cycle crashes on the North Shore were reported with the police. The **target** is to reduce the number and severity of injuries annually, while increasing the number of cyclists. Besides the number of crashes, the perception of danger while cycling needs to be addressed. Regular opinion surveys will be undertaken to assess reduction in the perception of danger, starting in 2003.

Goal 4 To improve convenience for cyclists

People cycle for different reasons, but a common wish among all cyclists is to have a convenient journey. Cycling convenience has to do with matters such as: ease of access, directness of routes, smooth, well-maintained surfaces, safe bicycle parking and sufficient information on cycling routes. The **target** is to give access to a cycle route within 1500m to 90% of the North Shore population by completion of the strategic network.



Goal 5 To improve enjoyment in cycling

Cycling can be an enjoyable activity for everyone when practiced in a cycle friendly environment. The **target** is to double the percentage of people that enjoys cycling in North Shore City through continuous improvement of the cycling environment. Regular surveys need to be established to assess changes in cycling enjoyment, starting in 2003.

Strategies

The goals will be achieved by implementing the following strategies:

- Strategy 1 Develop safe, convenient and quality cycle networks and supporting facilities to meet cyclists' needs
- Strategy 2 Apply best practice cycle design standards to cycle networks and to cycle facilities
- Strategy 3 Maintain cycle infrastructure to a high standard
- Strategy 4 Initiate and support education and training programmes that improve cycle safety
- Strategy 5 Support programmes promoting cycling
- Strategy 6 Improve the coordination of efforts amongst groups affecting cycling
- Strategy 7 Ensure that adequate resources are available to implement the plan.

