3.1 Central City District Plan Implementation Report

The four councils in the Central City District (Blacktown, Cumberland, Parramatta and The Hills) are on track to deliver LEP updates by mid-2020. All four councils are receiving NSW Government funding to support an accelerated program to implement the District Plan.

The following provides an overview of District-specific programs and planning using the four District Plan themes and the District Structure Plan Map:

- **Infrastructure and collaboration**
  - **Growth Infrastructure Compact (GIC) Pilot** for Greater Parramatta and Olympic Peninsula (GPOP) underway. Results anticipated to become available in the second half of 2019.
  - **Health**: Over $480 million NSW Government funding granted in 2018-20 for Stage 1 redevelopment of Westmead Hospital. Blacktown and Mount Druitt Hospitals redevelopment is underway; with Blacktown Hospital transitioning to a major metropolitan hospital.
  - **Schools Infrastructure**: Work recently completed or in progress for four new public schools and two new high schools, upgrades to 19 public schools and six high schools. Eight existing primary schools and three high schools are sharing open space with the public under the Share Our Space Program.

- **Liveability**
  - **A place-based approach** is being developed by councils in the preparation of Local Strategic Planning Statements which are due to commence exhibition by 1 October 2019.
  - **Local Housing Strategies**: being developed by councils will identify their response to housing need and help inform 6-10 year housing targets.
  - **Housing targets**: As a combined total, the Central City District is on track to meet the 0-5 year housing target for mid-2016-mid-2021 of 53,500 new dwellings.
  - **District Arts, Culture and Sport**: Investments include Bankwest Stadium opened May 2019, Powerhouse Precinct in planning, and $50.5 million funding for additional tennis facilities at Sydney Olympic Park.

- **Productivity**
  - **Greater Parramatta Metropolitan Centre**: Central Parramatta planning proposal to proceed to public exhibition.
  - **Strategic Centres**:
    - **Sydney Olympic Park**: updated Sydney Olympic Park Master Plan 2030 approved in August 2018, including capacity for 34,000 jobs, retail space, new homes, education sites, local parks and an entertainment hub. There is also a $50 million upgrade to Homebush Bay Drive.
    - **Blacktown**: In March 2019, Australian Catholic University partnered with Blacktown City Council to build a university campus in the centre.

- **Sustainability**
  - **Greater Sydney Open Space 2018-19 Program**: Funding of $14 million for Parramatta and The Hills to secure and improve green space.
  - **Five Million Trees Program**: Funding of $115 million for Blacktown and Cumberland to expand urban tree canopy.
  - **Parramatta River draft Masterplan** launched in October 2018 for public consultation.
  - **South Creek Strategy Stage 1** – finalised by INSW in consultation with State agencies and councils.

Key focus areas emerging for local strategic planning in the District as advised by councils include:
- **Leveraging** new investments in transport infrastructure to support jobs growth
- **Challenges** of funding and delivering adequate community and social infrastructure as well as new and embellished open space, to meet growing and changing needs
- **Understanding and addressing** the demand for more diverse housing types including student accommodation, boarding houses and secondary dwellings
- **Addressing** pressures to convert industrial lands to residential uses
- **The role of urban form** in allowing for increased urban tree canopy cover and mitigating urban heat island effects.
Sydney Metro Northwest opened May 2019, connecting strategic centres at Rouse Hill, Norwest, Castle Hill and Epping to the Eastern Economic Corridor at Macquarie Park.

Commuter Car Parks at Tallawong, Bella Vista, Hills Showground, Cherrybrook and Kellyville metro stations.

Parramatta River Foreshore Green Grid Priority Project: $10.2 million 2018–20 funding including upgrades to George Kendall Riverside Park, Ermington.

Telopea urban renewal precinct: Rezoned to deliver about 4,500 new (social, private and affordable) homes over the next 15–20 years.

Prospect Reservoir Water Pipeline Corridor Green Grid Priority Project

Parramatta Square: construction underway for new office space and public domain; Western Sydney University vertical campus opened June 2018.

Western Sydney Parklands Green Grid Priority Project

Commenced

North West Growth Area Draft Special Infrastructure Contribution Plan exhibited Sept–Nov 2018

Planning

Western Sydney Freight Line Further planning commenced to refine the recommended corridor following public consultation mid-2018

Planning

Sydney Metro West: 2019 NSW Budget announced $6.4 billion over four years towards new metro line linking Harbour CBD to Greater Parramatta

Planning

Parramatta Light Rail Stage 1 enabling roadworks commenced and $581 million funding announced in 2019–20 NSW Budget

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Commenced
Tree Canopy Cover

District Context
Metropolitan Rural Area 41%
Urban Area 59%

Notes:
1. Tree Canopy and Access to Open Space are mapped for the Urban Area only
2. Walking distance to a local open space measured along the road network
3. Tree canopy cover data is from NSW Urban Vegetation Cover to Modified Mesh Block 2016, Office of Environment and Heritage
4. Open space data is from the Public Open Space Audit 2016, Department of Planning and Environment
Evolving to a Metropolis of Three Cities

**PI 1** Jobs, education and housing

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Jobs: 378,000</td>
<td>Total Students: 246,400</td>
<td>Total dwellings: 318,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>24% Industrial</td>
<td>4% Other</td>
<td>65% separate house</td>
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<tr>
<td>31% Population serving</td>
<td>22% University</td>
<td>20% medium density</td>
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<tr>
<td>21% Knowledge-intensive</td>
<td>7% TAFE</td>
<td>15% apartments</td>
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<tr>
<td>24% Health and education</td>
<td>34% Primary</td>
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The Central City District is home to 18% of the Region’s jobs and 21% of the Region’s population. In 2016, 52% of the District’s working residents worked within the District. Between 2006-2016 the Central City District attracted 19% of the Region’s jobs growth and 27% of the Region’s population increase. This means the District population increase has been faster than jobs growth. In 2016, 38% of the District’s jobs were located in metropolitan or strategic centres and 35% were in industrial precincts. Growing centres and supporting new industries will help strengthen jobs growth in the District.

**PI 2** 30-minute city – network capability

Access to metropolitan and strategic centres (2018)

The network capability tool measures 30-minute travel by public transport (based on current infrastructure and 2018 timetabled service provision in the 6am-10am morning peak). It shows:
- 68% of the District’s dwellings are within 30-minutes by public transport to a metropolitan centre or cluster; and
- 99% of the District’s dwellings are within 30-minutes by public transport to a metropolitan or strategic centre.

**PI 3** Walkable places

All walking trips (2017-18)

In 2017 15% of all trips in the Central City District were walking trips, while 18% of all trips across the region were walking trips. Walking distance to open space becomes more important as densities increase, as does the need for public spaces. Measured using the street network, across the District:
- 59% of low-medium density dwellings are located within 400 metres walk to open space; and
- 24% of high-density dwellings are located within 200 metres walk to open space.

**PI 4** Addressing urban heat

Tree canopy (2016)

Over the 2018-19 summer North Parramatta experienced 19 days over 35ºC and Sydney Olympic Park experienced 13 days over 35ºC. Green infrastructure including trees and other vegetation as well as water in the landscape are an important part of place-making and can also help mitigate urban heat. Currently, the Central City District has a lower proportion of tree canopy cover in the urban area (17%) compared to the Greater Sydney Region as a whole (21%).

For details of data source please refer to Greater Sydney Dashboard