



Project Charter

Western Sydney Planning Partnership

PILOT PROJECT-
15 MINUTE NEIGHBOURHOODS

Project Charter

Pilot Project – 15-minute neighbourhoods (version 17 July 2023)

1 Project title

15-minute neighbourhoods

2 Project purpose

The purpose of the project is to:

- prepare a report for local councils and Transport for NSW (TfNSW) on the recommendations for implementing 15-minute neighbourhoods in Western Sydney;
- prepare a 15-minute neighbourhood planning guidance document that can be applied regionally; and
- prepare a specific 15-minute neighbourhood design guide for greenfield growth areas.

3 Project context

A key strategy in Future Transport 2056 is “Thriving 15-minute neighbourhoods” that are described as:

... neighbourhoods support(ing) local communities and healthy lifestyles by prioritising place making walking, cycling, micro-mobility, and last mile freight. The 15-minute neighbourhood concept will revitalise local centres, promote sustainability and independent mobility for children. Thriving 15-minute neighbourhoods feature shops, transport, and facilities easily accessible by walking or cycling. They have tree canopy cover and shade, quality public spaces, well-designed roads and pathways with safe speeds, and a concentration of activities that bring people onto streets.

WSPP has met with TfNSW on the establishment of the 15-minute neighbourhood project, arising out of the Future Transport review and agreed that it will commence jointly with TfNSW in Q3 2022-23.

4 Project objectives

The project objectives (to be refined with TfNSW) are:

- Prepare a contextual awareness of the current walking and cycling patterns in Western Sydney, including current achievement of 15-minute neighbourhoods.
- Investigate the technical solutions to achieve 15-minute neighbourhoods, and the supporting evidence base (or case studies) on their potential impact.
- Develop a 15-minute neighbourhood policy framework for the purpose of testing its application in a range of Western Sydney neighbourhoods (both recent greenfield, established and strategic centres).
- Test the policy framework application in a number of Western Sydney neighbourhoods, in collaboration with the local council, and prepare a place plan for targeted interventions.
- Undertake consultation on the likely impact of the various interventions (approach to this TBC – may be targeted interviews, may be seeking evidence from past interventions).
- Refine the 15-minute neighbourhood policy framework with learnings from the tests and prepare a planning guidance document that can be applied regionally.

- Focus on greenfield growth areas and prepare a specific 15-minute neighbourhood design guide for new communities that is designed to be implemented through referencing in development control plans and similar planning framework documents.
- Prepare a report for local councils and TfNSW on the recommendations for implementing 15-minute neighbourhoods in Western Sydney.

5 Benefits targeted

Project benefits sought from the work to be undertaken will be:

- An understanding of current 15-minute neighbourhoods in Western Sydney and the technical solutions to achieve these neighbourhoods.
- Development of a planning guideline for 15-minute neighbourhoods (for regional application) and a specific 15-minute neighbourhood design guide for greenfield growth areas.

