

Newcastle and the Lake. A Bicycle Transport Charter

Cycling contributes to;

Great streets, liveable cities, efficient and equitable urban transport, less congestion, less traffic noise, healthy physical activity, road safety, clean air, fighting climate change, reducing fossil fuel costs and sustainable tourism.

With the ambition to make Newcastle and Lake Macquarie a cycle-safe and friendly place, the undersigned commit themselves to working and supporting efforts to:

- Foster a safe, patient and respectful relationship between motorists, cyclists and pedestrians.
- Make bicycle plans an integral part of overall transport planning. Review, update and report on these at least bi-annually.
- Supply bicycle budgets that will increase cycling facilities.
- Measure cyclists comfort and safety to assess progress in cycling plans.
- Provide bike parking and end of trip facilities for staff to encourage cycling to work.
- Make it easier for cyclists to use their bicycle with public transport.
- Promote cycling through tourist centres and major cycling events.
- Provide an ongoing framework for consultation between cyclists, community reps and government.
- Make cycling more prominent in government. Appoint a Cycling Executive at senior level to coordinate cycling work.
- Provide clear, calm and connected transport spaces for bicycling by;
 - First, do no harm. Make sure that existing facilities are retained or improved in new developments.
 - Training designers and policy-makers to design and test cycle facilities that meet relevant Australian and State standards.
 - Building separated lanes or off road cycle paths to safely access key public transport hubs, places of work, learning and leisure.
 - Lowering speed limits, using one way streets and other traffic calming devices to make streets safer for on-road cycling.
 - Connecting these calm streets to off-road cycle routes.
 - Preserving local transport links for active transport
 - Supplying directional signs, on-road marking and up-to-date maps and information.
 - Adjusting traffic lights to reduce waiting time at major road crossings.
 - Providing safe spaces for sporting cyclists to train at speed.
- Through all these things, increase the proportion of trips made by bicycle to at least 5% by 2016.