

The Draft Central West and Orana Regional Transport Plan

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Draft Central West and Orana Regional Transport Plan?

The Draft Central West and Orana Regional Transport Plan ("The Plan") outlines the strategic framework for how Transport for NSW (Transport) will respond to changes in land use, population and travel demand across the region over the next 20 years.

It provides a blueprint for transforming the way people and goods travel within, to and through the Central West and Orana region over the next 20 years.

The Plan is a supporting plan to the Future Transport 2056 strategy.

Why do we need a Regional Transport Plan for the Central West and Orana region?

Over the next 20 years the Central West and Orana region is expected to change significantly.

- The region's population is projected to grow by about 20,000 people to 306,000 by 2041.
- There will be investment in Inland Rail, and the continual improvement of the Newell Highway, which will strengthen the north-south transport spine through the region.
- Freight traffic will continue to evolve, and needs to be accommodated and moved efficiently on our road, rail and aviation networks.
- The role of the transport sector in supporting a transition to a low emissions economy will increase.

We need a plan in place to make sure our transport network can meet the changing needs of our region.

The plan will enable improved connectivity between the Central West and Orana areas and key destinations beyond the region including Greater Sydney, Greater Newcastle and Canberra.

How was the Draft Central West and Orana Regional Transport Plan developed?

The Plan has been developed through formal engagement with key stakeholders from around the region to make sure it is relevant to the area.

Stakeholders engaged during development of this draft Plan include representatives from all 19 councils across the Central West and Orana regions, relevant state agencies and both the Central NSW and Orana Joint Organisation of Councils.

How will the community benefit from the Transport Plan?

The Draft Central West and Orana Regional Transport Plan identifies a number of initiatives for investigation to improve safety, connectivity, productivity and resilience of the transport network. This will improve the range of transport services and options available to the community.

By 2041 these improvements described in the Transport Plan will deliver benefits such as:

- The Inland Rail project and the Great Western Highway Upgrade Program will be operational, improving connectivity both within and beyond the region
- Improved infrastructure and public transport services will make walking, cycling and public transport more realistic options for more people across the region.

- Safer, more reliable and more efficient connections between different modes of transport between the region and Greater Sydney.
- Improved safety for all transport users across the network.
- Increased freight productivity on the road and rail network.
- Support and encouragement of low emissions technology.
- Transport technology that supports safer, more efficient, and more accessible trips.

Which Local Government Areas does the Draft Central West and Orana Regional Transport Plan cover?

The Plan covers 19 local government Areas, including Bathurst, Blayney, Bogan, Cabonne, Coonamble, Cowra, Dubbo, Forbes, Gilgandra, Lachlan, Lithgow, Mid-Western, Narromine, Oberon, Orange, Parkes, Warren, Warrumbungle and Weddin.

How does the Draft Central West and Orana Regional Transport Plan support a lower emissions future?

The Plan recognises the NSW Government's target of net zero emissions by 2050 and identifies initiatives to support the transition of the transport network and NSW Government's fleet to lower emission technologies. This includes supporting the use of clean energy fuel sources for vehicles and increasing public and active transport to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the transport sector.

The Plan embraces the use of technology to reduce the need to travel, including the use of telehealth, online shopping and food delivery services.

How does the Plan link in with other planning happening for our region?

The Plan has been developed together with the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's (DPIE's) Draft Central West and Orana Regional Plan 2041 (the "Regional Plan").

The Transport Plan and Regional Plan are closely aligned with each other and aim to deliver initiatives that will benefit the Central West and Orana region into the future.

The Transport Plan also responds to the NSW Government's target of net zero emissions by 2050 and seeks to accelerate the transition of the transport sector to a low emissions future.

When will the initiatives in the Draft Central West and Orana Regional Transport Plan be delivered?

The initiatives identified in the Transport Plan respond to the challenges identified for the region.

While some initiatives are already in the delivery or planning phases, new initiatives will be staged over the next 20 years.

Feedback captured from stakeholders and the community will be used to refine and finalise the Transport Plan and the timing of initiatives.

Transport will provide status updates every 12 months, and the Regional Transport Plan will be refreshed every five years.

What feedback are you seeking for the Draft Central West and Orana Regional Transport Plan?

We are asking you to think about:

1. If you support the transport vision, objectives and initiatives outlined in the Plan?
2. Are there issues, ideas or initiatives that are important to you or that we have missed in the Plan?

The feedback we receive will help refine the Plan.

How can I provide feedback on the Draft Central West and Orana Regional Transport Plan?

Stakeholders and communities are encouraged to provide their feedback on the Draft Central West and Orana Regional Transport Plan via:

- Our project webpage at <https://future.transport.nsw.gov.au/CWORTP>
- By email at regionaltransportplan@transport.nsw.gov.au

How will consultation be undertaken during Covid-19 environment?

Due to the evolving COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, TfNSW is following NSW Health advice and changing the way we communicate and engage with stakeholders and communities.

Consultation will be carried out via social media, digital and written advertising, and the project webpage to ensure the stakeholders and community can practice social distancing and limit the spread of COVID-19.

Briefings will also be provided to relevant local councils, joint organisations and elected representatives.

When will the Draft Central West and Orana Regional Transport Plan be finalised?

After the exhibition of the Plan Transport will review all feedback and update the plan where required.

We will finalise and release the Plan by mid 2022.

What is the Draft Central West and Orana Regional Plan 2041 and how is it linked to the Transport Plan?

The DPIE's Draft Central West and Orana Regional Plan 2041 is the NSW Government's plan to ensure the ongoing prosperity and growth of the Central West and Orana region. It provides a vision and direction to guide planning and land use decisions over the next 20 years to drive job creation, housing diversity and vibrant, resilient, liveable communities.

The Draft Central West and Orana Regional Plan 2041 is open for stakeholder and community feedback before 18 February 2022.

You can visit <https://dpie.mysocialpinpoint.com.au/central-westorana-2041> to read and provide feedback on the Regional Plan.

The Plan has been prepared to respond to the Draft Central West and Orana Regional Plan 2041 with a transport vision that is aligned with the Regional Plan's vision for the region.