

Response to Draft Regional NSW Services and Infrastructure Plan

December 3 2017

The Amy Gillett Foundation welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on the Draft Regional NSW Services and Infrastructure Plan.

About us

The Amy Gillett Foundation (AGF) is a national organisation with a mission to reduce the incidence of serious injury and death of cyclists in Australia. The AGF was founded in 2006 after the tragic death of Amy Gillett, who was hit by a driver while training with the Australian cycling team in Germany. Amy's parents, Denis and Mary Safe, and her husband, Simon Gillett, started the AGF to help create a safer cycling environment in Australia.

Our goal is for safe cycling in Australia, and our vision is zero cyclist fatalities. We draw on evidence and international best practice, and collaborate with government, business and the community to create a safer environment for cyclists, while maintaining an efficient road network for all road users.

Response and recommendations

Already 15.5% of Australians (3.74 million people) ride a bike in a typical week.¹ However, safety is a major barrier to cycling participation. We know that more people would ride more often if cycling was safer, with fear of sharing the roads with drivers and the lack of dedicated cycling infrastructure most often cited as the reasons for not riding.²

By making riding a bike easy, safe and accessible, cycling for transport can be part of more people's daily routines. In order to increase cycling participation, **the AGF strongly recommends that governments at all levels support and invest in an environment that makes cycling safer.**

We are pleased that the Draft Regional NSW Services and Infrastructure Plan recognises the contribution that cycling as a mode of active transport can make to the growth and the economy of Greater Sydney over the next 40 years.

¹ Australian Bicycle Council. (2017). National Cycling Participation Survey. Available at: <http://www.bicyclecouncil.com.au/publication/national-cycling-participation-survey-2017>

² RAC WA. (2015). Cycling Survey 2015. Available at: <https://rac.com.au/car-motoring/info/cycling-in-wa>

We have the following comments and recommendations on the Draft Regional NSW Services and Infrastructure Plan:

Page	Comment/Recommendation
20	Strongly support the development and integration of cycling and walking programs in regional cities and centres
22	Any Road Safety Programs should be broader than infrastructure projects – education and enforcement are also critical in working towards a zero trauma road network. This should include cyclist-specific training as part of driver licensing and driver skills refresher training and the enforcement of minimum passing distance ‘a metre matters’ legislation
22	All new major new road links and developments should include mandatory cycling infrastructure
30	Support the delivery of integrated transport networks and interchanges. All interchanges should be safely and easily accessible for cycling and walking with movement priority given to people on bikes or walking. Interchanges should include, as a minimum, secure bike parking. More extensive End of Trip Facilities should be included as appropriate
32	Strongly support statewide active transport initiatives that invest in creating an environment that makes walking and cycling safer
62	Welcome the acknowledgment that cycling has a key position in the tourism sector. The economic value of the cycling tourism industry is significant and Regional NSW should work to maximise its potential in this growing space
76	Strongly support the use of the Safe System approach in the drive Towards Zero