

BUILDING AN INTEGRATED TRANSPORT NETWORK

ACTIVE TRAVEL

The ACT Government's vision for active travel is to make Canberra Australia's cycling capital and most walkable city.

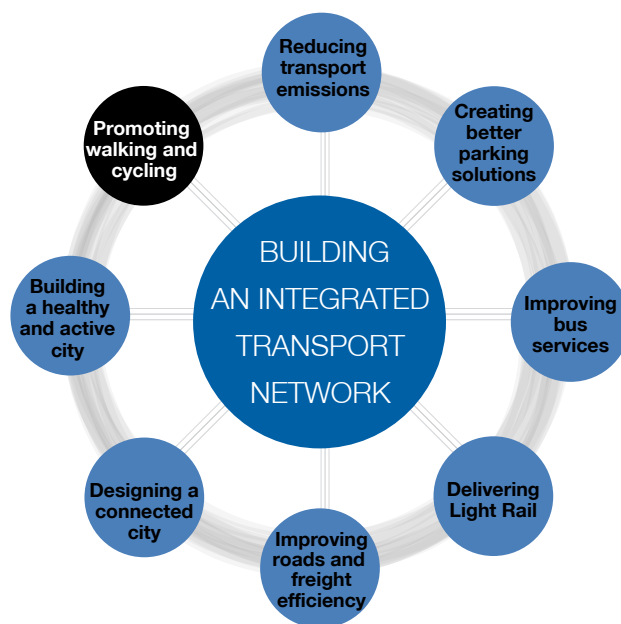
Building an Integrated Transport Network – Active Travel outlines how the government can better integrate planning and delivery of active travel initiatives to further encourage and support walking, cycling and riding as a part of Canberra's overall urban planning, transport, health, environment and education systems.



INTEGRATED TRANSPORT NETWORK

In cities around the world, integrated transport networks shape the way cities grow and prosper, generating economic opportunities and jobs, and providing vibrant and attractive social environments for residents and visitors.

Active travel is an important component of developing an Integrated Transport Network for Canberra. This network includes all transport modes (walking, cycling, public transport, roads, freight, vehicles), and is part of delivering on key government policies including Transport for Canberra, the ACT Planning Strategy and Action Plan 2 (ACT Climate Change Strategy), the City Plan and other master plans, and the Healthy Weight Action Plan.



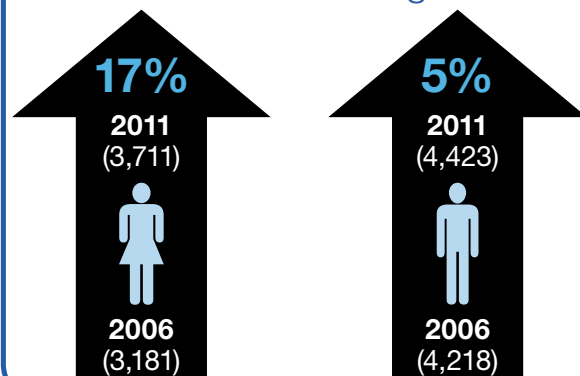
ACTIVE TRAVEL TARGETS

- Transport for Canberra aims to increase the mode share of work trips by cycling and walking to 7% each, and mode share of public transport to 16% by 2026. In 2011, the actual mode share of work trips by cycling was 2.8%, walking, 4.9% and public transport, 7.8%.

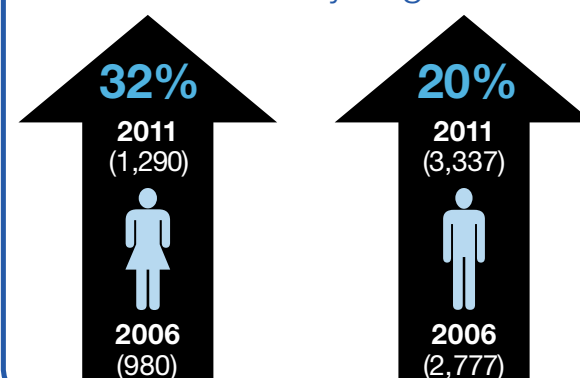
This supports health and active living goals including the:

- Healthy Weight Action Plan aims to keep rates of overweight and obesity in the ACT at or below their 2012 level.
- Active 2020 Strategic Plan aims to increase participation in active recreation activities and promote the health and wellbeing of the community.

ACT Walking



ACT Cycling



WHY ACTIVE TRAVEL?

Active travel (walking and cycling) is increasingly recognised as a key feature of the world's best cities. The exercise from a walk to the shops, the social benefits from meeting people on the streets and the economic benefits from active travel have been demonstrated in other Australian cities.

Increases in obesity, congestion and climate change all present significant challenges for the Territory. Active travel – whether for recreation or transport – provides many benefits for individuals, families, businesses and local communities.

Active travel aids prevention of lifestyle-related conditions such as depression, obesity, diabetes and heart disease. It improves general fitness and health, and extends our expectancy for a long, active and enjoyable life.

The ACT Government recognises that matching the Active Travel Framework with investment is essential for encouraging people to make active travel an option more often. The Government has committed more than \$87 million over the period from 2012–18 to ensure that our communities are provided with improved infrastructure, including a range of improvements to walking and cycling paths. This funding is part of the ACT Government's Healthy Weight initiative which supports healthy decision making through good urban planning, encouraging people to choose active travel options.

BENEFITS OF ACTIVE TRAVEL

- Health benefits such as improved mental and physical health
- Economic benefits such as reduced healthcare costs, increased property values, increased retail expenditure and reduced construction costs
- Environmental benefits such as reduced congestion, air and noise pollution
- Social benefits such as improved community wellbeing and social cohesion.



HOW CAN WE SUPPORT ACTIVE TRAVEL?

- Remove barriers and obstacles to walking, cycling and riding
- Improve access to public transport stops
- Improve the connectivity of walking and cycling networks
- Integrate active travel networks with public transport hubs
- Ensure active travel connections within and through town and group centres
- Improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists
- Provide supportive infrastructure such as lighting, shade, signs, seating and drink fountains
- Encourage employers to provide end-of-trip facilities.



PRINCIPLES FOR ACTIVE TRAVEL

PLAN: Include and prioritise walking, cycling and riding when planning for land use and transport

1. Work within a clear hierarchy of planning
2. Design networks of continuous, convenient connections
3. Facilitate active, vibrant communities

DELIVER: Build appropriate infrastructure for walking and cycling needs

4. Create safe environments for pedestrians and bicycle riders
5. Incorporate quality pedestrian and bicycle facilities when building other infrastructure
6. Increase public transport catchments through better pedestrian and bicycle access
7. Improve pathways, intersections and facilities

ENCOURAGE: Enable greater participation in walking, cycling, riding and accessing public transport

8. Programs to encourage walking, cycling, riding and access to public transport

MANAGE: Coordinate across agencies

9. Ensure best practice governance arrangements, monitoring and evaluation
10. Partner across directorates, business and community to achieve co-benefits

