



Robyn Preston MP

Member for Hawkesbury

MEDIA RELEASE

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GRANTS TO REVITALISE YOUR HIGH STREET

Neighbourhood high streets around the State will be revitalised with a new \$15 million initiative to stimulate local business and support economic recovery.

The *Your High Street* grants program is the next phase of assistance for councils which will restore vibrancy to our high streets and villages.

Member for Hawkesbury, Robyn Preston MP, said *Your High Street* builds on the huge success of the \$15 million Streets as Shared Spaces program, which is now supporting 48 demonstration and pilot projects across NSW.

“Thriving local high streets have always been important to community health, well-being and prosperity,” Ms Preston said.

“The pandemic has shown just how vital public spaces are to our local communities and economies. More and more people are staying local and loving it.

“This program provides councils with up to \$1 million to fund or co-fund innovative projects including space for dining outdoors, wider footpaths, tree planting, traffic calming, lighting, public art or anything else that might invigorate high streets and boost local economies.”

Minister for Planning and Public Spaces Rob Stokes said the initiative dovetails into other programs that have been introduced to ensure a COVID-Safe Summer.

“This program builds upon our work backing councils to provide more visionary, legacy public space projects right in the heart of our centres that will benefit the community for years to come,” Mr Stokes said.

“There is no better time to do this as summer approaches. We want people to get out of their homes and into their local neighbourhoods and retail centres to enjoy local goods and services.”

Already, places across NSW have embraced the Streets as Shared Spaces program with fresh approaches to public space.

Successful projects include; the main street in Coogee being shared with pedestrians in parklets; a new ‘Heart’ of the town centre public square and one-way street trial in Drummoyne; and the installation of a Stay & Play Arboretum in Broken Hill.

The Streets as Shared Spaces program was launched earlier in the year and awarded grants to councils for temporary activation projects that support the community during COVID-19 and also test ideas for more permanent improvements to local streets, paths and public spaces. A full list of recipients can be found [here](#)

For more information visit: www.dpie.nsw.gov.au/premiers-priorities/great-public-spaces/streets

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