

Inner West Blue-Green Grid Strategy

Project update

Engagement

Implementation plan

Feedback

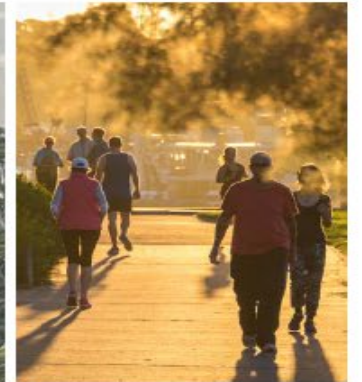


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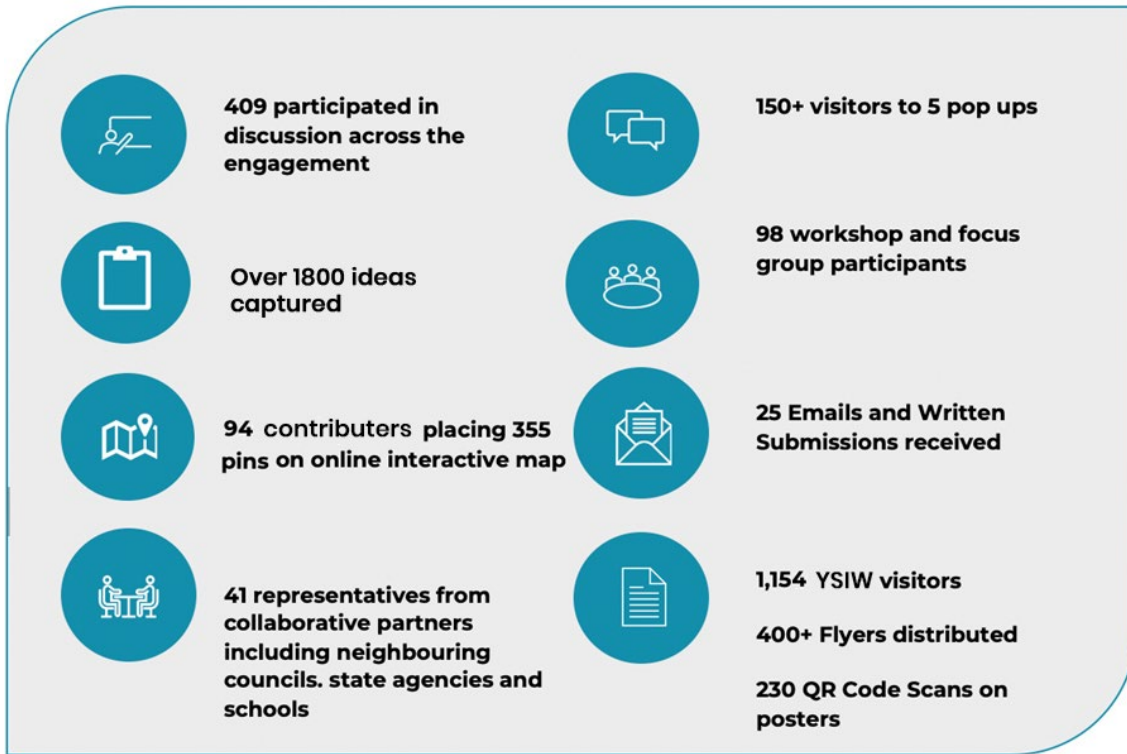
19th October 2023

Background

- Council has access to grant funding from Department of Planning & Environment to prepare a Blue-Green Grid Strategy for the Inner West
- Completed the first round of community engagement (information gathering) and draft Strategy on public exhibition till 22 October.
- The Implementation Plan which includes priority links and costings is currently being prepared. This document will be internal only.



Stage 1 Engagement Outcomes



- Early engagement occurred between 16 March – 30 April
- Hugely successful – warmly welcomed by the community
- Over 400 participants across all events and activities

Purpose:

- Seek place specific suggestions and opportunities to inform development of the Blue-Green Grid
- Understand local needs and priorities for blue and green grid connections across Inner West



Common themes from the engagement

Effective Active Transport Networks

- Pathways and active transport routes better equipped to handle capacity and diverse uses.

Access to Water

- Better access to the blue grid through naturalisation of creeks and rivers and finding more swim sites within the Inner West.

Natural Areas Open Spaces

- More considered approach on where and how natural assets are delivered and maintained.
- Want more dense and planned plantings to increase biodiversity in existing green spaces and enable the community to connect with nature.



Priorities for the Inner West Blue-Green Grid

- Increase access to recreational open space and waterways
- Provide more routes for walking, cycling and play along green leafy streets and pathways
- Expand the urban tree canopy and areas of vegetation
- Provide more areas of natural habitat for native fauna
- Adapt to climate change - reduce urban heat and improve air quality
- Protect and enhance ecological communities
- Incorporate more WSUD features into the landscape to better treat stormwater, reduce flood risk, and manage water quality
- Promote and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island histories, art, cultural and scenic features



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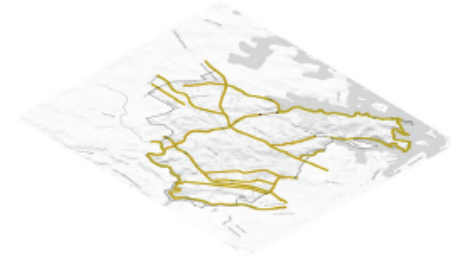
Evidence base to develop the Grid

- The Blue-Green Grid has been developed based on an overlay of over 30 data sets
- Data sets have been categorised into 5 grid functions
- Analysis of GIS data based on grid functions has provided a visual tool for identification of opportunities and constraints for the Blue -Green Grid to consider



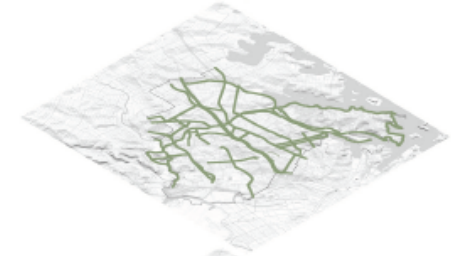
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, Arts, Culture, and Heritage

Maps related to heritage, identified local indigenous places, waterways and swamps, public art, arts venues, and cultural and historical places linked to Aboriginal history.



Ecological

Biodiversity corridors, vegetation coverage, living streets, urban heat, and tree canopy.



Connected

Parks, activity anchors, points of interest, pedestrian movement, public transport walkability, public art and heritage.



Recreational

Areas of higher density, local centres, parks and catchment areas, active streets, and provision of open space per person data.



Hydrological

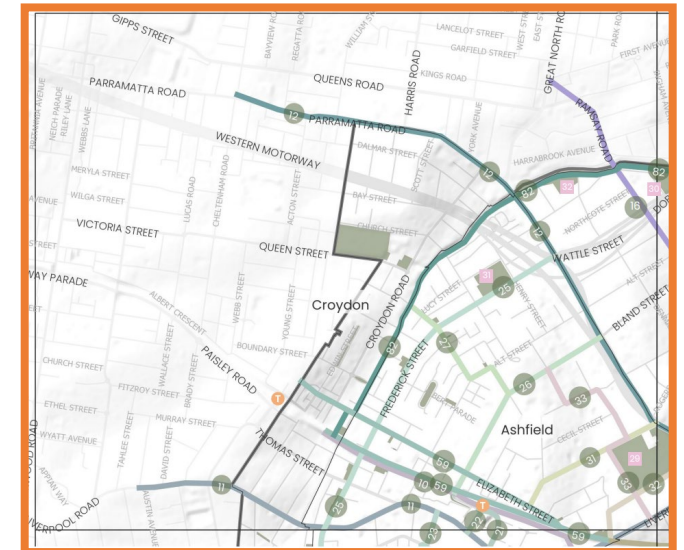
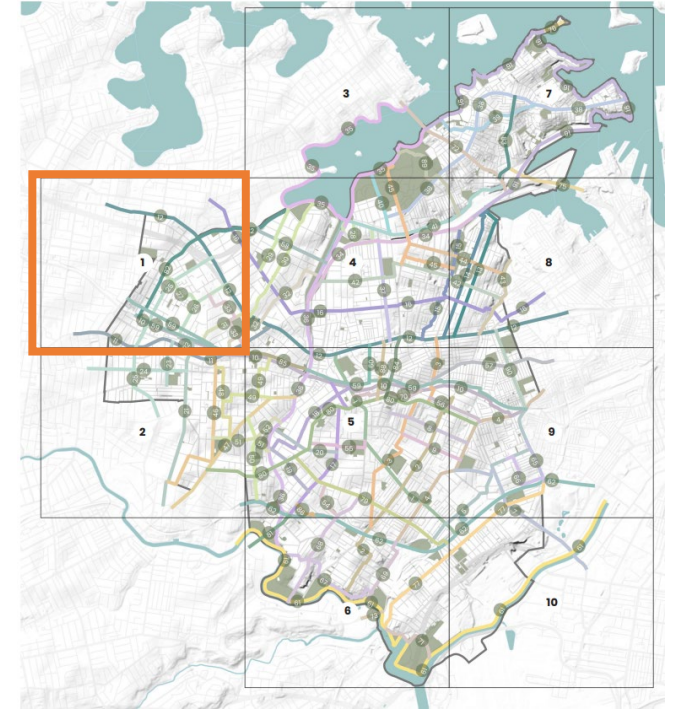
Waterways and flooding extend, sea level, permeable surfaces, and urban heat.



About The Grid



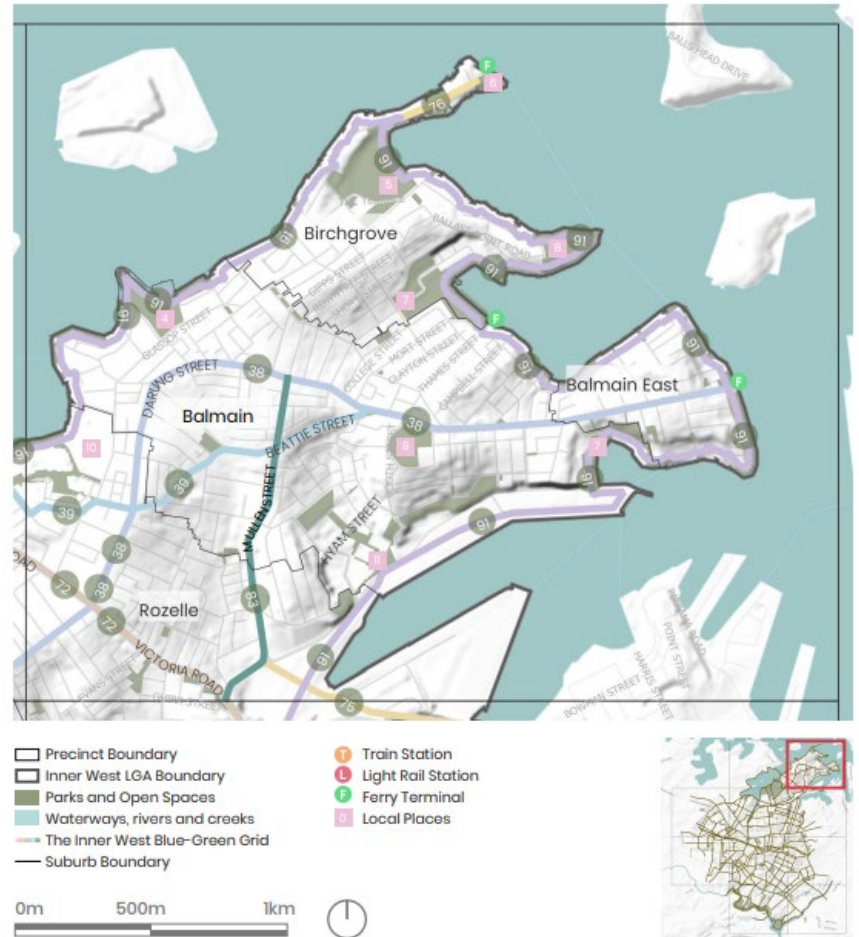
- The draft Blue-Green Grid comprises of **84 links**
- The grid has been divided into **10 precincts** covering the entire Inner West LGA
- Precinct boundaries based on existing LEP map tiles



The Grid Precincts

Within each precinct, captured information includes:

- Link name and identification number
- Key places of interest within the precinct
- Association with particular grid function (culture, ecological, connected, recreational or hydrological)
- Identified opportunities based on:
 - Mapped evidence
 - Community and stakeholder input



Blue-Green Grid Links

- 38 Balmain Road at Glover Street to Balmain East Ferry wharf via Darling Street
- 39 Beattie Street to Bridgewater Park via Wise, Terry and Margaret Street
- 72 Victoria Road
- 75 The Bays Precinct to Blackwattle Bay via Glebe Island Bridge
- 76 Louisa Road
- 83 Montague Street and Mullens Street
- 91 Balmain Peninsula harbour walk

Places

- 4 Elkington Park & Dawn Fraser Baths
- 5 Birchgrove Oval
- 6 Yurulbin Park
- 7 Mort Bay Park
- 8 Ballast Point Park
- 9 Gladstone Park & Balmain Hospital
- 10 Sydney Secondary College - Balmain
- 11 Vanardi Green

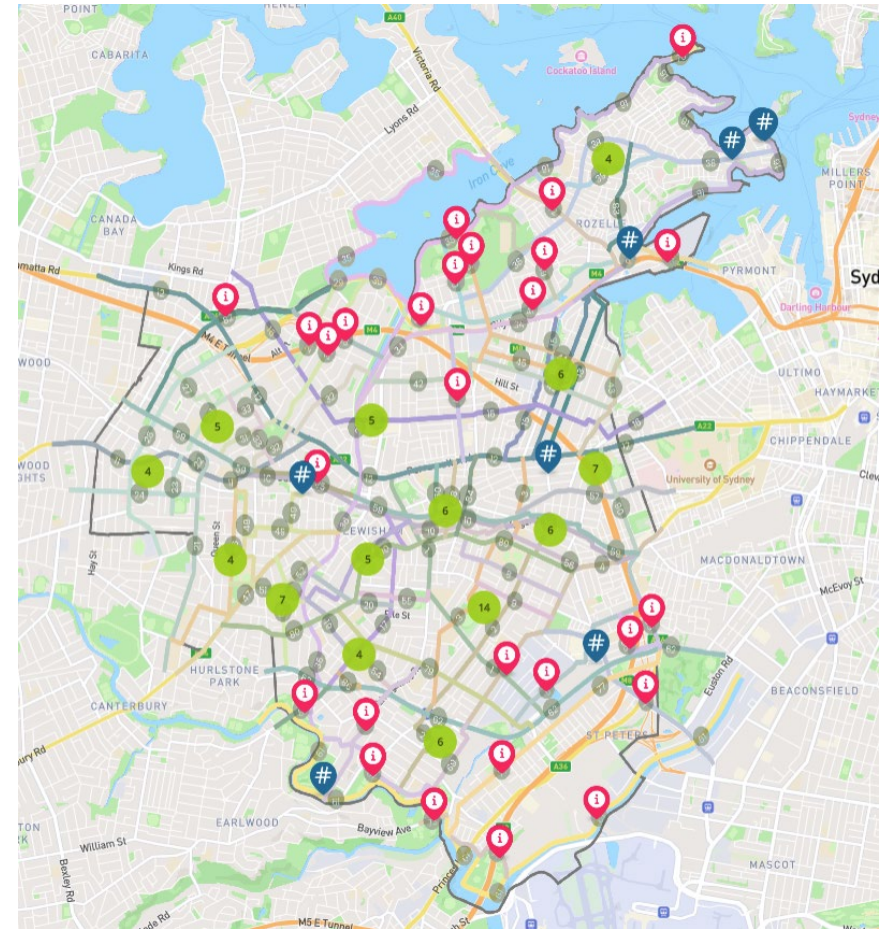
Relevant Projects and Responsibility

Rozelle Town Centre Master Plan (under development) Ongoing, Inner West Council/TfNSW	White Bay Eco-corridor 2022, Inner West Council
Cycling Strategy and Action Plan 2023, Inner West Council	Tom Uren Walking Trail 2016, Inner West Council
Parramatta to Sydney Harbour Foreshore Link (under development) 2023, TfNSW	Bays West Place Strategy 2021, NSW DPE
	Rozelle Interchange Urban Design and Landscape Plan 2021, TfNSW
	Leichhardt Native Revegetation & Biodiversity Management Plan 2017, Inner West Council
	Balmain East Foreshore Plan of Management 2013, Inner West Council



Engagement Program – exhibition of draft Blue-Green Grid Strategy

Dates	15 September – 22 October
Purpose	<p>Seek feedback from the community on the draft Strategy and the proposed routes and links</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - did we get link locations right? - have we identified appropriate opportunities for grid links?
Engagement methods	<p>Your Say Inner West web page survey Written feedback</p>
Communication methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 x Face to face pop up events • Social media (Facebook, Instagram) • Council’s news and announcements page • Council’s what’s on page • Emails to registered Your Say Inner West users • Emails to everyone who engaged with Stage 1 engagement program including general community and all key stakeholders



Your Say Inner West mapping contributions from public exhibition



Implementation Plan

Scope:

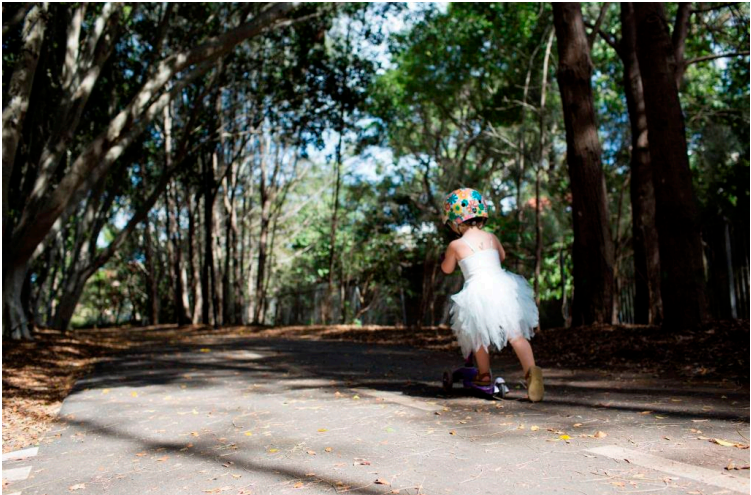
- Top 20 priority links and indicative timeframe
- Development of high-level costs
- LEP and DCP controls



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Next Steps – Blue Green Grid

	Task	Target date
1	Public exhibition of the draft Strategy	15 September – 22 October
2	Finalise Implementation Plan	October 2023
3	Council endorsement of final Blue-Green Grid Strategy to meet final funding milestone with DPE	5 December 2023



Any questions or feedback?



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