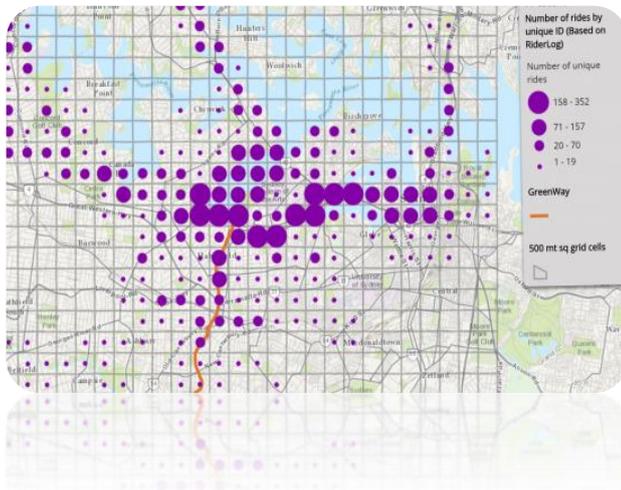


City Futures Research Centre

Understanding the Co-benefits and Challenges of Urban GreenWays: Using the Cooks River to Iron Cove GreenWay as a Living Laboratory

Project Overview



Using the Cooks River to Iron Cove GreenWay in Sydney's inner west as a living laboratory, this study aims to understand the many benefits and challenges of urban greenways. The study will develop a framework to measure the multiple benefits and challenges of the GreenWay as the Central and Southern Missing Links Project is completed. Using longitudinal research, focused on before and after monitoring of the GreenWay Missing Links Project, a range of issues will be evaluated. These include active travel rates (cycling, walking and light rail usage), and benefits across social, health and environmental criteria. Broadly, the study

will identify current knowledge and theory gaps in determining effective ways to evaluate the impact of new active transportation infrastructure in urban greenways.

Research questions

The following research questions have been identified:

1. How do we measure the multiple benefits of greenway infrastructure in cities?
2. How do we develop a culture of shared use and enjoyment by all users of multi-purpose urban environmental corridors?
3. How do we plan and manage shared walking and cycling paths to maximise benefits and minimise conflicts between users?
4. What are the available methods and techniques to measure the impact of new active transport infrastructure?
5. How can we use urban dashboards to engage citizens as decision-makers in understanding the benefits and challenges of urban greenways?

Project outcomes

Innovative spatial and visualisation techniques

The study will adopt mixed (static and dynamic) methods and techniques to collect and analyse the required data. Novel methods for data fusion analytics and visualisation will then be applied.



Citizens science approach and community engagement activities

Research outcomes will be presented in an easy-to-use dashboard. This will be developed to provide local planners, decision-makers and community members access to key performance metrics. A bi-directional flow of information will capture community members' views and ideas. Qualitative data will be captured through intercept surveys and interviews with a range of stakeholders.



Longitudinal research

The study will use a robust spatial and longitudinal design. The outcomes will help us understand the relationships between active transport, travel time, traffic congestion, and improved population health.



Understanding the benefits of new GreenWay infrastructure

The study will improve understandings of the benefits of the GreenWay infrastructure. These will cover categories such as: active transport, biodiversity conservation, air quality, renewals stimulus and economic uplift.





Project partners

Research



Government



Industry



Principal Investigators

Prof. Chris Pettit, UNSW



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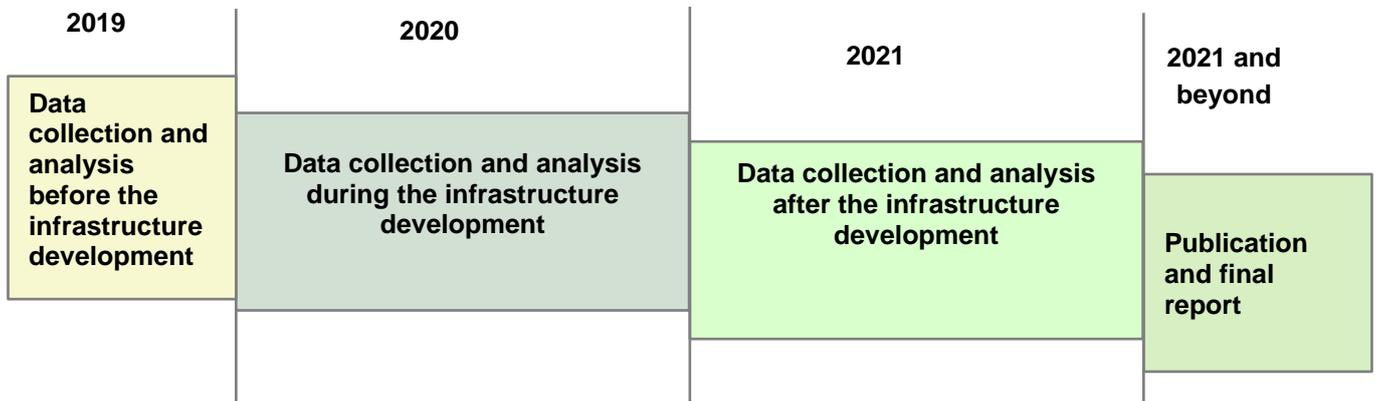
Case study

The impact evaluation will be conducted on the case study site of the GreenWay in the Inner West of Sydney.



The GreenWay runs through a densely populated inner-city area. More than 48,000 people live within its catchment (between 1 and 5kms). As the population continues to grow in this area, the GreenWay will be an important piece of infrastructure enabling and promoting active travel behaviour, as well as significant environmental benefits. This will have the potential to future health and transport challenges.

Project schedule



City Futures Research Centre is a national leader in scholarly applied urban research. Our work spans urban planning, housing, health and well-being, design, urban development and social policy. We collaborate with a range of academic researchers, local, state and federal government agencies, as well as industry stakeholders and community groups. cityfutures.be.unsw.edu.au. For more information on the project visit the [website](#).