



## Streets for People Programme

### **Where did this programme come from?**

In 2020-21, the Innovating Streets for People fund helped towns around New Zealand to use tactical urbanism to trial temporary street changes. These projects helped demonstrate how our transport system can be adapted to deliver low carbon transport solutions that are safer and healthier, by putting people and place at the heart of our streets. These impacts are aligned with the Keeping Cities Moving action plan, Toitū te Taiao sustainability action plan, and New Zealand's road safety strategy, Road to Zero.

*With momentum developed since Innovating Streets for People's inception in 2019, and the positive response received from local government partners and the wider community, Waka Kotahi is now seeking to extend the programme into a new phase with a focus on increasing its impact*

Streets for People enables the rapid reallocation of space to encourage walking, cycling, and scooting, which will be critical to achieving our emission reduction goals and making our towns and cities safer and more liveable. Where Innovating Streets allowed us to work with councils to trial, test and evaluate these innovations, these learnings are now ready to support and encourage towns and cities to deliver rapid network changes using this evidence-based approach.

### **Why is Waka Kotahi funding street changes?**

In October 2021, the New Zealand Government released the Emissions Reduction Plan Discussion Document.

The draft Emissions Reduction Plan clearly outlines that we need “urgent, wholesale changes” to the transport system. One of the most powerful levers is reducing everyday reliance on private vehicles and fossil-fuelled cars by making it easier for people to choose low-carbon alternatives.

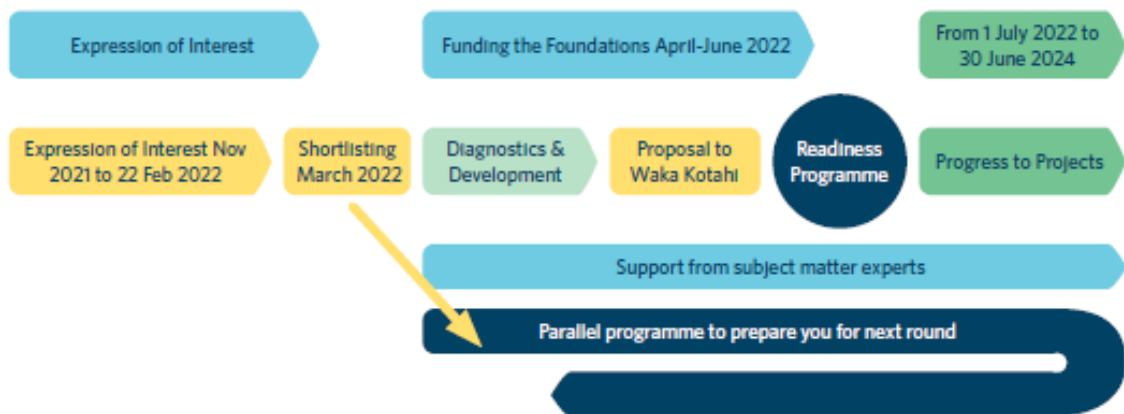
The plan calls for widespread and bold proactive street changes. These include rapidly repurposing significant road space for dedicated bus lanes and safe bike lanes, to streamline public transport and create low-stress environments for active journeys. It also calls for consideration of repurposing assets looking for opportunities through routine road repairs to reshape our streets for more sustainable everyday trips.

The Streets for People programme runs throughout the current National Land Transport Programme (NLTP) period to 30 June 2024 and builds on the learnings of Innovating Streets. It will enable councils to roll out climate-friendly streets quickly, using tried and tested tactical methods that build community confidence and buy-in along the way.

### **Who has been invited to apply?**

All councils across Aotearoa with activities committed to mode-shift already included in current Regional Land Transport Plans (RLTPs) have been invited to apply.

## What steps are involved for accessing Streets for People funding?



**Expression of Interest:** For the first stage, we are inviting councils to submit an expression of interest. This written application establishes your ability to partner with Waka Kotahi by inviting you to demonstrate your organisation's readiness, willingness and processes that will enable you to implement rapid road reallocation approaches.

You should be able to demonstrate a strong sense of direction, strategic alignment with our national goals, and clearly outline the projects you are proposing to deliver on these goals from those that your council has in an approved RLTP and/or the NLTP. Additionally, the EOI asks you to demonstrate:

- What resources you will allocate to the programme
- How rapid change will be supported by your council's senior leadership, organisational governance, and systems
- How your council will co-invest with Waka Kotahi
- How you will develop and support active and healthy partnerships.

Expressions of interest close 22 February 2022, and shortlisted applicants notified by 31 March 2022.

## Streets for People funding programme

Shortlisted councils will progress into the Streets for People funding programme defined by two phases:

1. Funding the Foundations: pre-implementation
2. Funding the projects: implementation

You must successfully complete Phase 1 to secure funding for Phase 2.

### Phase 1 - Funding the Foundations: pre-implementation

This phase is about ensuring your programme is well positioned and supported to deliver successful projects. It is split into three components:

- **Diagnostic & Development:** Gap analysis and planning stage
- **Proposal:** Presenting your refined programme, demonstrating your commitment and plans for success
- **Readiness Programme:** Putting in place the plans, frameworks and tools required to make your project successful

During this first funding phase, our staff and consultants will be able to support you to further develop your proposal and make sure you have the foundations in place. We will dive into the details of your programme, look at where refinements need to be made, and help ensure you have the tools you need to succeed. You will begin to draw together your core team, take part in workshops, and link with experts and programme peers.

An element of the programme will be standard workshops, designed around programme development and building key capabilities required for successful delivery identified in the 2020/2021 Innovating Streets evaluation. However other parts will be bespoke and tailored to your needs. We will work with you to develop a tailored programme that will support successful delivery of your programme. Our intention is to build your programme's momentum and set in place clear transparent criteria, so you have confidence on programme progression. However not all projects will proceed to implementation if they do not meet the criteria.

## **Phase 2 - Funding the Projects: implementation**

After 1 July 2022, with the successful completion of the readiness programme, councils will move forward with self-directed delivery complemented and supported by peer-based learnings. Based on the needs of your programme, we will continue to support you with access to international and local expertise, tested templates and proven prototypes, and ongoing mentorship. We will also provide a standardised project monitoring and evaluation programme to expedite and share learnings.

### **How did you develop the funding criteria?**

The Streets for People criteria are guided by the extensive evaluation of the 2020/2021 Innovating Streets for People funding programme, which is available at [www.nzta.govt.nz/streets-for-people](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/streets-for-people)

In 2020/2021, we partnered with 32 councils through Innovating Streets for People to deliver 78 projects, supporting them to demonstrate quick, effective, and affordable solutions on the ground, and growing community feedback and confidence in real time. Councils were enabled to build capability to quickly change street space, and dynamically test new street layouts, materials, and approaches.

The fund led the way for rapid learning by upskilling a nationwide Community of Practice over 300-strong and producing collective insights into nimble and engaging ways to deliver long-term plans, streamline processes, and a shared suite of modular solutions for partnering with the community to get things done.

The evaluation of projects delivered through Innovating Streets in 2020/2021 has helped us identify key criteria to set up Aotearoa for success in rapidly reallocating road space to enable more people to walk, bike, and scoot. Each set of criteria links back to key learnings from the 2020/2021 evaluation.

Listening to the insights of participating councils, community partners, and practitioners from across the motu about the importance of leadership, team, resourcing, and capability building, we have made changes to our programme and support. These changes include the development of multiple funding phases, the readiness programme and a standardised monitoring and evaluation programme for projects.

### **What will the programme fund?**

Streets for People will provide funding to accelerate the successful delivery of a local strategy or plan with proposed road space reallocation and mode shift projects identified in an approved RLTP and/or the NLTP, using tactical approaches that allow for rapid implementation.

This can include funding activities such as enhanced collaborative engagement practices, expert resources, or materials for piloting designs.

### **What sits outside the Streets for People funding criteria?**

Streets for People is established to fund capability building and project delivery through tactical methods. This does not include the development of council strategic planning for mode shift or the development of the network operating framework. Councils looking for support in these areas should visit:

<https://www.nzta.govt.nz/planning-and-investment/planning-and-investment-knowledge-base/202124-nltp/2021-24-nltp-activity-classes-and-work-categories/investment-management/>

### **What will the Funding Assistance Rate (FAR) be?**

The programme can provide up to 90% FAR.

### **How will funding be administered?**

Funding will be administered through the Waka Kotahi Transport Investment Online (TIO) system.

### **How should I fill in the form?**

We recognise the challenges on teams presented by COVID-19, and that the EOI timeframe includes the Christmas and New Year period. With this in mind, we have created a simple EOI process, looking for a concise and compelling summary of how a council will meet the criteria and provide the supporting documents as appendices.

The EOI helps to establish your ability to partner with us by inviting you to demonstrate your council's organisational readiness, willingness and processes that will enable you to implement rapid changes. We are also looking for a strong sense of direction, strategic alignment with our national goals, and projects that will deliver on these already identified in an approved RLTP and/or the NLTP.

## Assessing the EOI

### **How will the EOI be assessed?**

The EOI will be assessed by our expert advisory group within Waka Kotahi.

### **How will we know how we measured up in the EOI, and when will we find out whether our application has been successful?**

We have developed a scoring system based on how well a council meets the criteria. The weighting for each criterion is outlined within the EOI.

Applications close on 22 February 2022, and we will undertake the initial assessment.

We will contact councils with feedback in the first weeks of March 2022. Following this, we will work with project teams to communicate the scoring, close any gaps identified in the initial assessment and discuss the next steps.

As outlined in the EOI document, we expect to complete this part of the process by end of March 2022.

## The shortlist

### **What happens if we don't make it to the shortlist?**

Firstly, congratulations. It is great that you want to be part of leading the action on climate change in Aotearoa.

Building capability is a continuum, and we want to continue to support all council teams to develop capability and capacity in road-space reallocation. If you do not make the shortlist, there are still plenty of opportunities to be involved with learning.

As part of the EOI assessment, we will work with you to understand where you may need more guidance, whether that be through mentoring, training, or peer-based learning. This will make sure you are set up for success in the future.

Waka Kotahi also invites all applicants to be a part of the wider Streets for People support programme, which will include a Community of Practice, webinars, and events.

### **What happens if we DO make it to the shortlist?**

Firstly, congratulations! We are pleased to partner with you on this journey, supporting your growth and success. You will move forward into the first funding phase of the programme: funding the foundations. We will notify shortlisted councils late March. After 1 April, pre-implementation funding accessed through TIO will be made available to shortlisted councils to begin building your team, and dedicating resources to participation in diagnostics and development work.

### **How much funding is available to councils during the “Funding the Foundations” Phase.**

Immediately after the EOI assessment and based on each council’s score, we will have a good indication of where diagnostic and development efforts should be focused, and who needs to be involved. Based on that assessment Waka Kotahi will ask councils to submit proposed costings, and an agreed budget will be set.

### **What should we expect during the Funding the Foundations Phase?**

#### **Diagnostics & Development**

The evaluation of the 2020/2021 Innovating Streets programme has given good insights into shaping up this phase, including the criteria and the level of support that councils might need.

The EOI process is going to further refine that picture, and the diagnostics and development components within the first phase is an opportunity to work collaboratively to investigate, identify gaps and opportunities, refine your delivery plan alongside peers and in conjunction with recognised experts.

*Remember from ‘What will the programme fund’ that support is being developed to accelerate the successful delivery of local strategies and plans with through rapid implementation using tactical approaches. This might include funding activities such as enhanced collaborative engagement practices, expert resources, or materials for piloting designs.*

We are keen to create a safe space for successful councils to work as a cohort to share ways of speeding up the delivery of your networks by closing gaps and reallocating street space effectively. This might include workshops, peer reviews, presentations, and iterations of delivery plans. We expect this to be a combination of in-person and virtual sessions. Investing time and resource into the foundations of your programme is key to delivering at pace.

This stage is about discovery, and this may mean that critical aspects of your plans need more attention. In these cases, we will work collaboratively with you to assess if more time is needed to prepare; and make a recommendation on next steps. This can include having access to the wider Streets for People capability building programme.

Equally, some councils may be more advanced, and we want to help you maintain momentum into delivery, and ensure you have the support you need. This is about working with you where you are at and establishing transparency and networks of support to move forward.

The diagnostics and development components comprising of investigation and iteration will form the basis of your Streets for People proposal to senior leadership in Waka Kotahi.

#### **Proposal:**

Once your improved plans, council commitment, and team are in place, you will be asked to present your Streets for People project to a panel of senior Waka Kotahi leaders. This should be led by a group of key council decision makers to demonstrate your commitment to the process.

At this point in the programme, the cohort should be ready to proceed to the readiness programme. If there are councils who are not well positioned to use the funding to deliver a programme, they will be informed and invited to take part in the wider Streets for People support programme to continue building capability for the next round.

#### **Readiness Programme:**

The Readiness Programme will help you take your improved plans and further recommendations from the Proposal phase and put them into action. This might involve working to update or streamline policies, establishing work programmes for the Streets for People funding, and informing your community of the great news.

**What happens once your project progresses to Phase 2: Funding the Projects?**

Once you are ready, and improvements are being actioned, you will begin to secure project funding. The Streets for People team at Waka Kotahi will continue to support you through this implementation phase with communities of practice, webinars, expert advice, facilitated learning, and access to a network of expertise. In the implementation phase, projects that meet criteria from the foundational phase could move into the project phase as soon as 1 July 2022

**Is there a quota on the number of programmes which will progress to Phase 2?**

There is no quota on the number of programmes that will progress to Phase 2. However, if concerns remain with programme fundamentals and/or organisational readiness to deliver, your project will not progress to the next phase of funding.

**What happens if we didn't make it through to this phase?**

We intend to support all teams to succeed. However, for some that success may take longer to deliver a project on the ground. Building capability is a continuum, and Waka Kotahi will continue to support all council teams to develop capability and capacity in road space reallocation. You will be able to remain in the wider Streets for People support programme, which includes a Community of Practice, webinars, and events. Waka Kotahi will also work with councils to understand where further guidance can be provided, whether that be through mentoring, training, or peer-based learning, and ensure you are set up for success in the future.