



# Help us make

## EDWARD ST AND PENSHURST ST SOUTH



**COOLER**

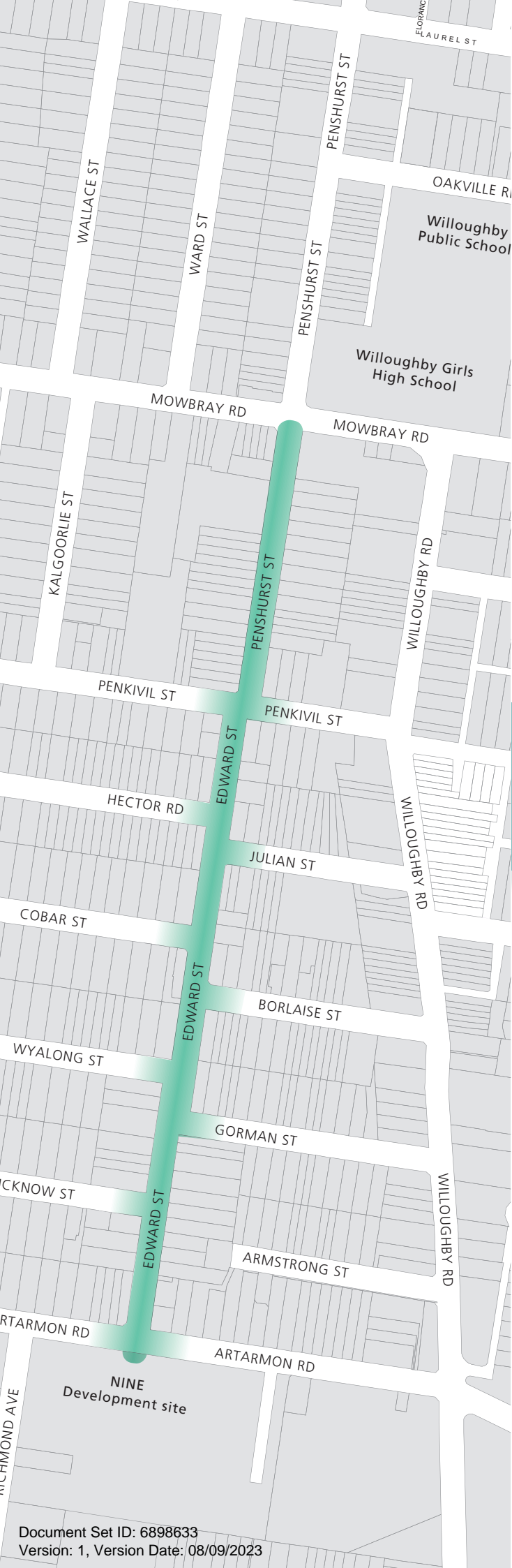


**GREENER**



**PEDESTRIAN  
FRIENDLY**

'This project is an exciting opportunity to help deliver the community's long-term vision for a City that is green, connected, liveable and resilient for the benefit of current and future generations.' **Mayor Tanya Taylor**



# Creating a cooler, greener, more pedestrian-friendly street corridor along Edward and Penshurst Street South, Willoughby



This brochure outlines Council's plans to engage with the community to inform development of a *draft Edward and Penshurst Street South Corridor Improvement Plan* to be publicly exhibited in mid-late 2023.

This integrated, whole of street corridor project will help deliver the community's long-term vision in Council's Community Strategic Plan *Our Future Willoughby 2032*<sup>1</sup> to create a City that is green, connected, liveable and resilient.



Edward St, Willoughby

# The story so far...

In 2022/23 Council allocated \$450,000 for a traffic calming project to address speeding, 'rat-running' and pedestrian safety issues along Edward Street.

Council invited community comment on the proposal and it was supported by more than two thirds of respondents.

In November 2022, the proposal was deferred by Council for further consideration. A \$500,000 grant was secured from the NSW Government's *Greening Our City Program* and the project expanded to include:

- Extension of the project along Penshurst Street South to provide better pedestrian links to the Penshurst Street shops, Willoughby Public School and Willoughby Girls High School;
- Significant additional street planting and other streetscape improvements to enhance amenity and pedestrian and cycle safety.

ISSUE  
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## TRAFFIC CALMING, PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AND CYCLING

A 2020 Council study showed 45% of motorists drove above the 50km/hr speed limit along Edward Street, which is also used as a 'rat-run' to avoid congestion on nearby Willoughby Road. There is a lack of pedestrian refuge islands, pram ramps and pedestrian crossings along the street. Inadequate line markings and varying road widths can make it confusing and dangerous for users.

ACTIVITIES UNDER CONSIDERATION	
1.1	Traffic calming measures to reduce speeding and 'rat running';
1.2	Improved pedestrian crossing facilities;
1.3	New cycle signs and road markings to reduce confusion and conflict between motorists, pedestrians and cyclists;
1.4	Optimising on-street parking and maintenance of safe vehicle access to driveways.

**Find out more at [www.haveyoursaywilloughby.com.au](http://www.haveyoursaywilloughby.com.au)**

## ISSUE 2

# URBAN HEAT AND STORMWATER

Our streets, buildings and open spaces are under increasing heat stress due to climate change. This can create uncomfortable and, at times, dangerous conditions for pedestrians. NSW Government monitoring shows that many streets in Willoughby, including Edward Street and Penshurst Street South, are up to nine degrees warmer than nearby bushland and foreshore areas<sup>2</sup>. Studies show that street trees reduce air temperature by up to 4 degrees and surface temperatures by up to 14 degrees<sup>3</sup> and can significantly enhance property values<sup>3</sup>. Climate change is causing more intense storms which can exacerbate local flooding, erosion and stormwater pollution.

### ACTIVITIES UNDER CONSIDERATION

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| 2.1 | Tree planting along footpaths and at pedestrian crossings to cool the street and enhance biodiversity; |
| 2.2 | Stormwater improvements such as rain gardens to intercept run-off and reduce stormwater pollution;     |
| 2.3 | Planting of hardy trees which can withstand increased temperatures.                                    |





Council-led active-travel project at Willoughby Public School

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## INCREASED PEDESTRIAN, CYCLE AND VEHICLE DEMAND

Like many suburbs, Willoughby is under pressure to accommodate more housing close to transport, shops, services and employment. Major state road upgrades such as the Western Harbour Tunnel are likely to generate more traffic along regional roads such as Willoughby Road. More motorists, cyclists and pedestrians will need to use the Edward and Penshurst Street South corridor in future. It is Council and NSW Government policy to provide transport choices to encourage people to use public transport, walk and cycle more, rather than rely on the car. Students undertaking a Council-led active travel project at Willoughby Public School have identified the corridor as one of four 'active paths' to encourage more students and their families to walk, scooter or cycle to school.

### ACTIVITIES UNDER CONSIDERATION

3.1	Improved line markings and signage on the street;
3.2	Landscaping, footpath improvements, street furniture and public art to improve amenity and streetscape quality;
3.3	Stencilling footpaths to encourage more students and families to walk, cycle or scooter to school.

1 <https://www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au/Council/Policies-and-publications/Publications/Community-Strategic-Plan-Our-Future-Willoughby-2032>

2 <https://datasets.seed.nsw.gov.au/dataset/nsw-urban-heat-island-to-modified-mesh-block-2016>.

3 <https://aecom.com/content/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Green-Infrastructure-vital-step-brilliant-Australian-cities.pdf>

Find out more at [www.haveyoursaywilloughby.com.au](http://www.haveyoursaywilloughby.com.au)



## What's next...

Council is engaging with the community to inform development of a *draft Edward and Penshurst Street South Corridor Improvement Concept Plan* to be publicly exhibited in mid-late 2023.

### Find out more

Scan the QR code or visit [www.haveyoursaywilloughby.com.au](http://www.haveyoursaywilloughby.com.au) to:

- Complete the online survey or post comments on the Interactive Map;
- Register for community workshops to be held in the Main Hall at Willoughby Public School, Oakville Rd, Willoughby, on 10 May and 7 June (6.45pm - 8.15pm).



WILLOUGHBY  
CITY COUNCIL

**MAY 2023**

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