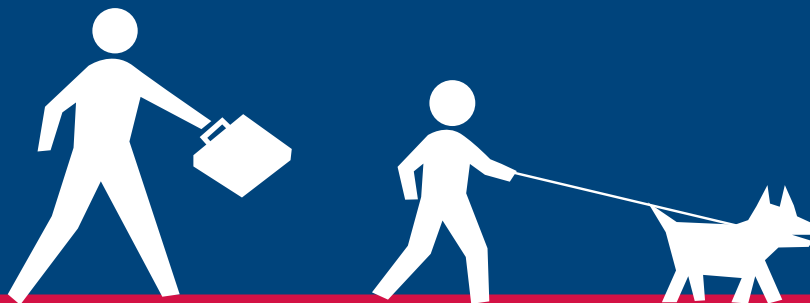


A series of white footprints of varying sizes and orientations are scattered across the blue background, suggesting a path or journey.

# Easy Steps

A toolkit for planning, designing and promoting safe walking

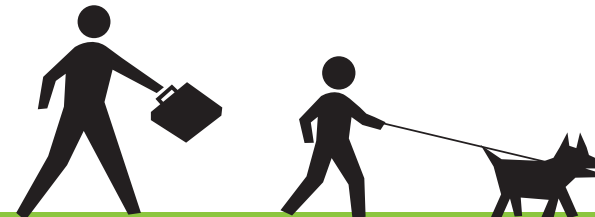


**Queensland Government**  
Queensland Transport



# Easy Steps

A toolkit for planning, designing and promoting safe walking



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Queensland Transport is the government department responsible for developing and managing the land, air and sea transport environment in Queensland, Australia.

Queensland Transport provides transport leadership through developing and ensuring implementation of a strategic transport policy agenda, transport planning and stewardship of Queensland's transport system.

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## Walking

Walking can be many things: a means of transport, a way of keeping healthy, a form of relaxation, or a sport. It can be a gregarious social activity or a solitary opportunity to meditate. It varies with whim and circumstance. Commuters scurry; shoppers meander; bushwalkers trek; power-walkers stride; lovers stroll; tourists promenade; protesters march... But we all walk.

Walking is one of our earliest individual achievements. The first tentative steps of the toddler are the first steps towards adulthood – the first moves in our lifelong craving for independent mobility. The craving never recedes, even as age or disability take their inevitable toll. Not so long ago the entire life experience of an individual was limited by the distance he or she could walk. Today, our globe has shrunk and our village is global. But walking remains what it has always been – a fundamental and universal means of transport for us all.

*The Australian Pedestrian Charter*



## The purpose of Easy Steps

For centuries, walking has shaped societies. Walking encouraged social contact and provided societies with a sense of place and a healthy form of exercise.

Modern society, with its dependence on the motor car, has seen walking replaced by the anonymity of car driving. In the process, communities have become insular and less able to enjoy the simple act of taking a walk. As a result, the general level of health has suffered.

Government at all levels, but particularly local government, has an obligation to ensure that the communities they represent enjoy a good level of social and physical health. Liveable communities and ecological sustainability, with walking being an integral component of both, are fundamental to this objective.

*Easy Steps: a toolkit for planning, designing and promoting safe walking* has been prepared for local governments: to inform, to encourage, to inspire, and to provide the tools for improving the walking environment.

## Aim

The *Easy Steps* modules are designed to assist council managers, planners and engineers plan for, promote and provide for increased walking levels in their local area.



# Using Easy Steps

Councils are encouraged to use *Easy Steps* to:

- ▶ embark on community-based programs aimed at encouraging greater levels of walking by all
- ▶ review current programs and facilities to determine where improvements can be made
- ▶ share lessons learned from the walking programs trialled so that others may benefit.

For ease of use, *Easy Steps* has been divided into five separate parts, each addressing a separate aspect of planning and providing for walking. Each part is divided further into stand-alone modules addressing specific issues. This format allows the flexibility to choose modules most appropriate to the current level of walking, and walking facilities and programs in a local area, and to progress from that level.

A pedestrian is typically defined as a person who travels on foot. However, for the purposes of this document, the term 'pedestrians' also includes those who require independent mobility aids such as wheelchairs or motorised scooters.

## Easy Steps structure and content overview

Part A Why walking matters	Part B Strategic planning for walking	Part C Planning and promotion	Part D Design, construction, auditing and maintenance	Part E Resource toolbox
A1 Why walking matters	B1 Taking the first step	C1 Planning to walk	D1 Designing good quality pedestrian facilities	E1 Comprehensive resource packages
A2 Benefits of walking	B2 Total quality management	C2 Walking and urban design	D2 Design for accessibility	E2 Pedestrian safety resources
	B3 Walking strategies and local action plans	C3 Developing walking networks	D3 Construction and maintenance of pedestrian facilities	E3 Pedestrian planning and design resources
	B4 Community engagement	C4 Promoting walking	D4 Signage and provision of information	E4 People and skills and walking group contacts
	B5 Funding	C5 Positively influencing travel choices	D5 Monitoring and evaluating pedestrian facilities	E5 Walking promotion resources
	B6 Managing street furniture	C6 Walk safe		
		C7 Planning for pedestrians during special events		

# Abbreviations

ABC	Australian Bicycle Council	HB	handbook
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics	HC	hydrocarbons
ACT	Australian Capital Territory	HREOC	Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission
AIHW	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare	ICS	infrastructure charging schedule
AITPM	Australian Institute of Traffic Planning and Management	IHT	Institute of Highways and Transportation
ARRB	Australian Road Research Board	IPA	Integrated Planning Act
AS	Australian Standard	IPWEAQ	Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia Queensland
AST	Active School Travel		
ATSB	Australian Transport Safety Bureau	ISTEA	Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act
BFA	Bicycle Federation of America	km	kilometre(s)
CAST	Centre for Alternative and Sustainable Transport	LATM	local area traffic management
CBD	central business district	m	metres
CD-ROM	Compact disc read-only memory	mm	millimetres
CED	Community Engagement Division	MUTCD	Manual of uniform traffic control devices
CO	carbon monoxide	n.d.	no date
CwIth	Commonwealth	NHTSA	National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
DTRE	Department of Transport, the Regions and Environment	no.	number
ed.	editor	NOx	nitrous oxides
edn	edition	NPV	net present value
FAQs	frequently asked questions	NSW	New South Wales
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration	NZS	New Zealand Standard
GFA	gross floor area	O Week	orientation week
GIS	geographic information systems	ODPM	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister
GPO	general post office	p.	page
ha	hectare(s)	PBIC	Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Centre



PCA	Pedestrian Council of Australia	SWAPP	Safe Walking and Pedalling program
PCP	primary care partnerships	TDM	transportation demand management
PCYC	Police Citizens Youth Club	TEA	Transportation Equity Act
PDF	portable document format	TGSI	tactile ground surface indicator
PedBikeTrans	Pedestrian and Bicycle Transport Institute of Australasia	TIDS	Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme
PO	post office	TOD	transit-oriented development
pp-	pages	TQM	total quality management
PPS	Project for Public Spaces	TRB	Transportation Research Board
QDMR	Queensland Department of Main Roads	TRUM	Traffic and road use management manual
QLD	Queensland	UK	United Kingdom
QT	Queensland Transport	URL	uniform resource locator
QUT	Queensland University of Technology	US	United States
RNA	Royal National Association	USA	United States of America
RTA	Roads and Traffic Authority	VIC	Victoria
SA	South Australia	VLGA	Victorian Local Governance Association
SAA	Standards Association of Australia (now known as Standards Australia)	vol.	volume
SafeST	Safe School Travel	vpd	vehicles per day
SEAL	Supportive Environments for Active Living	WA	Western Australia
Sec.	Section	WALGA	Western Australia Local Government Association
SEQ	south-east Queensland	WAPC	Western Australian Planning Commission
SMART	specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and timely	WHO	World Health Organization
SOS	'save our souls' (radio telegraphic distress signal)	WSB	'walking school bus'

