



Hon Tony Kelly MLC
Minister for Planning
Minister for Infrastructure
Minister for Lands
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
Leader of the House in the Legislative Council

MEDIA RELEASE

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FUNDING BOOST FOR ST GEORGE & SUTHERLAND SHIRE

More than half a million dollars in NSW Government funding will go towards improvements to recreation areas at Rockdale and Cronulla.

Minister for Lands, Tony Kelly, today allocated \$535,000 to three areas.

They are:

- \$215,000 to Rockdale Council for the construction of the Bardwell Valley Trail, an 800 metre walking track along the Georges River to Wolli Creek;
- \$200,000 to Sutherland Shire Council to implement the Shiprock Reserve Masterplan which provides access to the foreshore at the head of Burraneer Bay, particularly for scuba divers; and
- \$20,000 for a feasibility study into the extension of Cooks River Cycleway over Wolli Creek.

Mr Kelly said the Bardwell Valley Trail was identified as a priority in the Regional Recreation Trails Framework.

“The trail will include direction signage, lighting and upgraded park entry points,” the Minister said.

“Under the Shiprock Reserve Masterplan, safe stepped access, special viewing and seating areas will be constructed and an Aboriginal midden and remnant littoral rainforest will be protected and preserved.

“And the Cooks River Cycleway feasibility study will address an important missing link in the regional trail network”.

Member for Rockdale, Frank Sartor, welcomed the announcement.

“The NSW Government is committed to providing or improving public access to recreational areas, particularly in the Rockdale electorate, as the funding shows,” Mr Sartor said.

These local projects are among 26 throughout NSW which are sharing \$2.5 million in Government funding this financial year, as part of the Metropolitan Greenspace Program (MGP).

Mr Kelly said these projects will provide locals and visitors alike with a range of outstanding new facilities and vastly improved access to some of the city’s most valuable open space and recreational areas.

“Funding is provided to local councils on a dollar-for-dollar basis for specific regionally significant projects which help restore, conserve or enhance land in public ownership to provide high quality access and facilities for recreation purposes,” the Minister said.

A new report has also been released updating progress on the rollout of the *Sydney Metropolitan Regional Recreation Trails Framework*.
