

Safe Active Transport link between Scotts Head and Macksville
2026 Testing Resolve

Progress will take time, persistence, and advocacy, but the foundations are now in place to move forward. The focus should remain on maintaining momentum and commitment, testing collective resolve to “bridge the creek” and deliver an active transport link between Scotts Head and Macksville. Achieving this connection has the potential to unlock wider benefits and act as a catalyst for future opportunities.



- **Our Community:**

The commitment of the community, spearheaded by the Scotts Head Community Group (SHCG), resulted in the Nambucca Valley Council (NVC) committing to an Active Transport Strategy for the Valley and consideration of our proposal in that context. Active transport links will be integrated into future infrastructure planning, advancing bike-pedestrian connections. The strategy also promotes youth engagement and broader community support through inclusive initiatives.

Through Community Consultation the SHCG arrived at 5 Options: Across the weir following the water mains, 2 suggested by Council and 2 by Gumma residents.



Map 5 Routes

SHCG will now consult Gumbaynggirr People on pathway options, seeking support while exploring opportunities to acknowledge heritage and share access benefits to Gaagal Wanggaan National Park.

- **State Government:**

The SHCG has identified Transport for NSW’s (TfNSW) [“Get NSW Active”](#) program as a key opportunity and is keen to support Council in preparing an application for 2027/28. When offered, funding is available for: active travel strategies/plans, feasibility assessment, concept design, detailed design & project construction. [“Get Kids Active,”](#) funding is available for project construction within 2000m of a school & Active Routes to School initiative. Destination NC will support the NVC in expanding their Active Transport Strategy.

- **Federal Government:**

The Australian Government has launched a \$100 million [“Active Transport Fund”](#) to build and upgrade bicycle and walking paths, aiming to improve safety and reduce emissions. Funding is available until the 2028-2029 financial year. The aim of the program is to encourage an increase in active transport through the upgrade of existing, and construction of new bicycle and walking pathways across Australia. The focus areas for the program are road safety, reducing transport emissions, active and liveable communities.



Promoting Connection

Opportunities to explore:

Acknowledging the Nambucca Valley’s high SEIFA disadvantage ranking and Council’s funding constraints, the SHCG will continue to explore State and Federal funding options and promote the connection as a **catalyst for future opportunities for our inclusive community.**