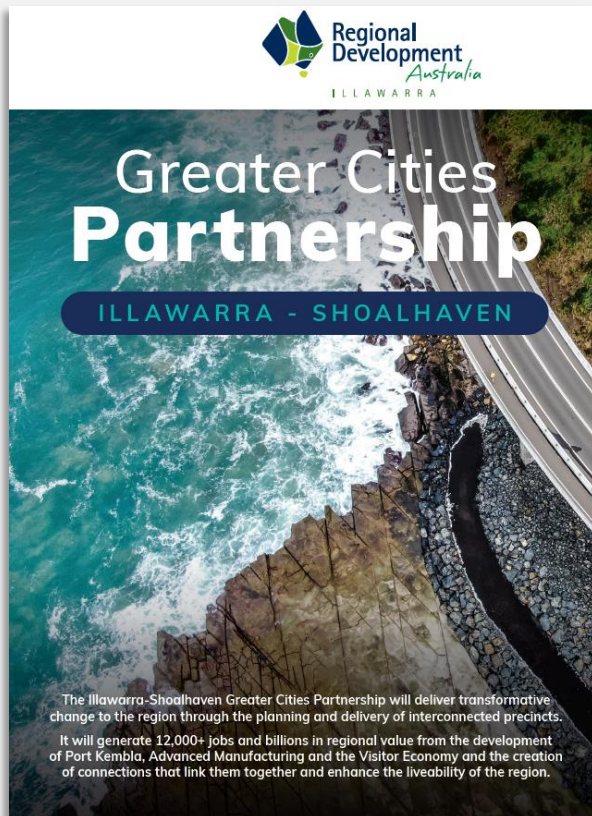


# Illawarra-Shoalhaven City Deal success inspires new City Partnership

Since its launch in October 2020, the Illawarra-Shoalhaven is more than half-way (54%) to achieving the targeted \$875 million of investment in critical infrastructure.



Encouraged by its initial success, the City Deal will be reviewed and re-launched as the **Illawarra-Shoalhaven City Partnership**, in response to a new federal government and the increased influence of the Greater Cities Commission in the region.

"That over half of the funding has been committed in less than two years says that the Illawarra-Shoalhaven City Deal highlighted the right projects to transform our region," said Debra Murphy, CEO of RDA Illawarra.

The rejuvenated City Partnership will focus on the development of key precincts within the region, including:

- ▶ Sports & Entertainment,
- ▶ Port Kembla & Industrial Land,
- ▶ Visitor Economy, and
- ▶ Advanced manufacturing.

The development of the Port of Port Kembla provides significant opportunities to develop new industries in sustainable energy, and to link with the Defence capability already established and growing in the Shoalhaven.

Connectivity between precincts - how they are linked to each other and the broader economy - is vital.

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We remain keen to see a commitment to the duplication of Picton Rd along its length to the M31 (Hume Freeway), and to delivery of a business case for a South-West Illawarra Rail Link, along with completion of a 'Blue Highway' for marine-based tourism.

The remaining two connectivity projects are to develop a master plan for public transport in the region, and better connect Albion Park residents to the M1.

“The concept of a ‘30-minute City’ is one we are advocating, but this will require considerable modelling, planning and development if we are to move residents by public transport from one key precinct to another – or to home – within a 30-minute timeframe,” concluded Murphy.

The launch of the revitalised Illawarra-Shoalhaven City Partnership is Scheduled for October 2022. It will be supported by a marketing and promotion campaign including a half-fold pamphlet that summarises the Illawarra Shoalhaven Greater Cities Partnership as well as a 16-page detailed brochure.