

NMT DEMONSTRATION TOWN SMART PROJECT



PROJECT SUMMARY

The NMT Demonstration Town in Hermanus delivers a comprehensive upgrade of walking and cycling conditions by establishing a continuous, high-quality network that links homes, schools, workplaces, commercial centres and public transport hubs. It responds directly to severe pedestrian safety risks, long and unsafe learner and worker journeys, and the persistent underinvestment in NMT infrastructure. With more than ten construction-ready projects, the initiative prioritises traffic calming, universally accessible design, lighting, wayfinding, safer crossings, and expanded bicycle distribution. It aims to generate measurable safety, mobility, economic and public-realm improvements while demonstrating how innovative, inclusive infrastructure can advance spatial justice, build stakeholder trust, and strengthen the physical, social and institutional capitals that the Western Cape Infrastructure Framework 2050 (WCIF 2050) prioritises for long-term provincial resilience and equitable development.

MAP OF THE PROJECT



Extent covers Hermanus, Zwerlhle, Hawston, Vermont, Whale Coast Mall

PROJECT STATUS



A comprehensive Business Case has been completed within the 2025/2026 financial year. Over ten construction-ready NMT and public transport projects already exist in Hermanus, reflecting strong municipal commitment and alignment with the provincial NMT Master Plan. Designs, documentation and multicriteria assessments are in place, and the core constraint is implementation funding. The project is now formally acknowledged as sufficiently mature to progress into the investment phase.

KEY PARTIES



- **Overstrand Western Cape Mobility Department** – Project owner and lead implementer
- **Municipality** – Long-standing partner with construction-ready NMT projects
- **Local communities and organisations** – Beneficiaries and partners in behaviour change and bicycle distribution programmes

PUBLIC/PRIVATE SECTOR OPPORTUNITIES

Private sector investors can engage through:



Supporting delivery of high-impact NMT and public transport infrastructure upgrades and amenities.



Co-funding bicycle distribution, safety programmes and behaviour-change initiatives in priority communities.



Partnering on innovative materials, design methods and mobility technologies aligned with WCIF 2050 principles.



Investing in urban realm enhancements such as lighting, greenery, security features and wayfinding systems.



Providing capital for implementation acceleration where construction-ready projects already exist.



Participating in monitoring, evaluation and scaling frameworks to replicate the model provincially.

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FINANCIAL NEEDS



The NMT Demonstration Town programme is now fully prepared for implementation, supported by a completed business case and a pipeline of priority, construction-ready projects. While no funding has yet been allocated for 2026/27, the immediate focus is on mobilising investment to unlock implementation. This creates a clear opportunity to leverage public and climate-aligned funding to deliver safer, more accessible non-motorised transport infrastructure and public realm improvements.

Total programme costs are estimated at R81-92 million over three years, with approximately R266 million required for NMT and supporting infrastructure, including upgrades, traffic calming, universal accessibility, and supporting public realm improvements.

TIMELINE

MILESTONE/PHASE	DESCRIPTION
2025 / 26: Planning & Readiness	Completion of the business case, refinement of the NMT Master Plan (as required), finalisation of the implementation plan, and establishment of monitoring and evaluation systems
2026 / 27: Funding mobilisation & readiness	Packaging of projects and securing funding commitments to enable implementation
Post -Funding Year 1	Initiation of phased infrastructure upgrades, including traffic calming, accessibility improvements, lighting, and wayfinding
Year 2 – 3	Scaled rollout of infrastructure, behaviour change programmes, and bicycle distribution

Note: Timeline for Phase 1 and Phase 2 is funding-dependent

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



Direct response to a critical safety burden, with pedestrians accounting for +50% of fatalities, reducing long-term social and health system costs.



High readiness for implementation, with over ten construction-ready NMT and public transport projects and completed designs, reducing delivery risk.



Strengthened municipal-provincial alignment, supported by an existing NMT Master Plan and long-standing partnership with Overstrand Municipality.



Clear, phased cost structure enabling predictable budgeting and sequencing across the MTEF.



Evidence-based demonstration value, generating data for provincial replication and improved future budget efficiency.



Supports equitable access for learners, workers and low-income communities, aligning with provincial spatial justice priorities.



Advanced to the bankable portfolio, confirming institutional commitment, project maturity, and readiness for structured funding mobilisation.