

RESULTS RELEASED FROM BICYCLE NSW POLL “IT’S NOT CARS VS BIKES – WE’RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER”

Recent publicity surrounding the changes on Epping Road suggested a stand-off between cars and bikes. To help Bicycle NSW gain insight into community feeling about this issue we conducted a public, online poll. The results of this poll are now available in summary report format at <http://www.bicyclensw.org.au/Advocacy.asp/>.

The important finding is that there appears to be little evidence to support the notion that people who drive cars and people who ride bikes are separate, mutually exclusive groups.

Alex Unwin, CEO of Bicycle NSW said:-

“We recognise that bike riding is simply part of the solution. This poll shows that people who ride bikes are also people who drive cars, and no doubt many of them use public transport too.

“In light of the recent statistics that bikes outsold cars last year in Australia by over 40%, it is clear that more and more people are getting on their bikes, and they are looking for safe and useful places to ride.

“This interest is evidenced in our own initiatives. We saw registrations for *National Ride to Work* up 500% in NSW last year. And judging by the early interest in *Ride to School*, school kids are keen to ride their bikes too.

“The support of the Federal and NSW Governments along with local government, such as the City of Sydney, encouraging riding to work and school helps employees and students alike start their day actively - arriving alert and ready for productive work and/or study.

“As separate shared use paths such as those being developed along Epping Road begin to connect up across Sydney, thousands more people will feel safe enough to get out and enjoy riding their bikes for transport and recreation. The community will benefit from the outcomes of reduced traffic congestion, reduced carbon emissions, better health and a more liveable city.

“Bicycle NSW is keen to work with all levels of government, industry, and the community who share our commitment to achieving these outcomes.”

Key figures:

Three quarters (74%) of respondents ride a bike AND drive a car (or motorbike etc) at least once a week.

71.5% of respondents were NRMA members.

- 93% of these NRMA members supported the development of bike riding infrastructure such as separated cycle lanes.
- **80% of these NRMA members specifically supported the shared user paths under construction on Epping Road.**
- 85% of these NRMA members ride at least once a week.

Over 85% of the Bicycle NSW members who responded own a car, almost 90% drive at least once a week, just under 50% driving daily.

56% of respondents were both Bicycle NSW and NRMA members.

Enquiries

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