

David Robinson
Community Liaison Officer
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NSW 2001

December 3rd 2008

Re: Submission Re Union Street Cycleway Project

Many thanks for the opportunity to comment on the above project. We have reviewed the project background, scope and other documentation from the City of Sydney website and take this opportunity to confirm our full support for the project as presented.

As a State level organisation our comment is centred around the importance of the proposed works in the context of the broader development of bicycle routes to serve not only the residents of the City of Sydney, but also residents of Leichardt Local Government area and beyond to the communities in the Canada Bay, Ryde, Strathfield, Ashfield, Marrickville and Canterbury LGAs. The proposed works represent a vital link in the network of bike paths that provide these communities with a safe and accessible way to ride a bike into and through the CBD, particularly for the journey to work, but also for recreation. We commend the leadership the City of Sydney has shown in this regard through the development of the Inner Sydney Bicycle Network in conjunction with 14 other local government areas.

With this in mind we attach a copy of our recent submission to the Victoria Road Upgrade project which provides the relevant background, particularly with respect to the inner west. This project will also serve to improve the local amenity in that area and provide a link in the network of safe and accessible ways to ride a bike en route to the CBD and beyond.

Bicycle NSW worked closely with the City of Sydney as a key stakeholder in the development of the Cycle Strategy and Action Plan 2007-2017 and having reviewed the detailed designs and plans I am very confident that they deliver on the task as envisaged by that plan.

We note that the project, when seen in the context of the Victoria Road upgrade and the soon to be completed City of Sydney King St Cycleway project will serve to encourage a greater number of people to take to riding a bike as an environmentally friendly, healthy and above all fast, cheap and reliable way to avoid congestion on the way to work. We note that this will likely lead to an increase in the bicycle traffic on the shared bicycle/pedestrian zone across the Pyrmont Bridge and alongside the western distributor to Sussex Street, and we are naturally keen to ensure that this increase is accommodated as safely as possible for both riders and pedestrians. We further understand that the City of Sydney work closely with the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority who own and manage this infrastructure, and we would welcome the opportunity to work together with both parties on the development of appropriate interventions and treatments on this infrastructure as might be considered necessary.

We thank you for the work your team has so far undertaken in consulting with our affiliated local Bicycle User Group, BikeSydney on this project for their feedback on the detail of routes and specific design solutions, and we request that this process continue as the project develops.

Yours sincerely,

Alex S Unwin
Chief Executive Officer

Copies to: Elizabeth Hole Chief Operating Officer Bicycle NSW, Werner Steyer Advocacy Volunteer Bicycle NSW, Graeme Edwards Chair Bicycle NSW BUGs Council, Elaena Gardner BikeSydney,

