

Werner Steyer iBUG Chairman 68 Lake Entrance Rd Oak Flats 2529 16 November 2015

Illawarra BUG feedback on the Albion Park Rail Bypass Environmental Impact statement

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Albion Park Rail bypass

The Illawarra Bicycle Users Group inc. (iBUG) is a local group supporting cycling in all its forms and we are also affiliated with Bicycle NSW. As I am sure you are aware our membership has a significant interest in local infrastructure that supports our goals of community health, fitness and wellbeing. We are very supportive of initiatives which enhance community wellbeing and sustainability and of course safe cycling facilities. We are focused on working with local government, state government and statutory bodies to develop acceptable standards for cycling infrastructure and to improve amenities and facilities for cyclists and the wider active transport community in the Illawarra.

We are very pleased that most of our suggestions from previous feedback and meetings with the RMS project team have been included in the project. Our concerns with the bypass shoulders have also been addressed with conformation from Mr Vecovski the Project Development Manage that the shoulders will be marked as bicycle lanes including a separation line to provide a buffer zone between cyclists and motorists, this line marking will not impact on the shoulder being used as a break down lane.

Our only outstanding concern is the lack of a separated bicycle route or shared path between Croom Road and Durgadin Drive as the existing link from the East West Link Road will be severed by the new Bypass, forcing cyclists to use the hazardous New Lake Entrance Road interchange.

Our proposal to provide a bicycle shared path along the north side of the sound barrier as seen on the marked-up map 3 would provide a safe route to encourage more people to cycle, without using the motorway. This route would add a substantial link as it would provide a safe route between the exiting cycling infrastructure in Croom Reserve and Oak Flats when linked with back streets, the signalised intersection on the Princes Highway and the pedestrian rail crossing.

Our proposal is supported by Shellharbour City Council, who has indicated they would be amenable to allow the shared path to be built on council property if there is insufficient space within the RMS road corridor.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions

Sincere regards
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