

Attention: Director Infrastructure Projects
Major Projects Assessment
Department of Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

December 3rd 2012

Name of Application: Bicycle NSW Response to North West Rail Link Environmental Impact Statement 2

Application Number: SS1-5414

Bicycle NSW is a community based not-for-profit organization with a growing membership base that currently stands at over 12,000 members. Our members tell us they want a better cycling environment and the organization purpose of Bicycle NSW is "Creating a better environment for Cycling".

NSW 2021

Bicycle NSW supports the specific Goals, Targets and Priority actions in relation to cycling the NSW Government has set out in NSW 2021. For ease of reference these are set out here:

Goal 8 - Increase Walking and Cycling: Target to more than double the mode share of bicycle trips made in the greater Sydney region, at a local and district level.

Priority Actions: To increase walking and cycling to help ease transport congestion and build a healthier, more active community we will:

- Complete the construction of the *Metro Sydney Bike Network* and work with local councils to complete local cycle networks as part of an integrated transport network.

A copy of the *Metro Sydney Bike Network* is attached at Appendix 1.

Long Term Transport Master Plan

Bicycle NSW supports the policy directions and priorities relating to Cycling as contained in the draft report as follows:

- A recognition by government of the importance of **Safe Cycleways**, particularly for those keen to take up riding
- A commitment to building a clearly defined, legible and **Connected Cycling Network** around urban centers, priority 5kms radius, then 10kms
- Improved access to customer friendly **bike trip information**
- Better **bike parking** at public transport interchanges
- Establishment of a new **NSW Cycling Investment Strategy** to improve management and delivery of cycleway capital programs
- Enhanced cycling **routes in regional centers**

A key challenge faced by the government now lies in the delivery of programs and infrastructure to achieve the targets enshrined in NSW 2021 within the policy framework set out in the draft master plan.

Bicycle NSW is committed to doing everything it possibly can to support the government at all levels in meeting the challenges inherent in this delivery task and makes comment on proposals in the context of the above policy framework.

North West Rail Link Environmental Impact Statement 2

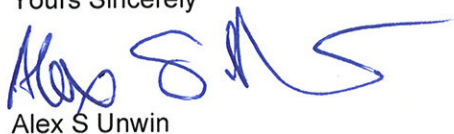
Bicycle NSW supports the proposal to the extent that it references the dual requirements for bicycle parking at stations and for the provision of safe cycleway linkages to these stations.

However Bicycle NSW objects to the proposal because it fails to provide sufficient detail with respect plans for the creation of specific bicycle related infrastructure. It is our experience that for major projects the tendency has been one of failure to properly embed planning and so in turn failure to adequately resource the investment required to deliver required bicycle infrastructure, leading to a "too little too late" and somewhat piecemeal approach towards the final stages of the project. The end result is bicycle infrastructure that is less attractive to potential users than it needs to be to deliver on stated government policy goals.

Bicycle NSW supports the submission made to the North West Rail Link Environmental Impact Statement 2 by our local affiliate bicycle user group "Bike North". In addition to providing very valuable insight into the level of detail and planning that is required in delivery of adequate bicycle infrastructure, the Bike North Submission demonstrates the importance of local community and user knowledge in informing design and delivery.

Bicycle NSW is grateful for the opportunity to make this submission and we look forward to the opportunity to work with the NSW Government to contribute to the development and delivery of a better environment for cycling.

Yours Sincerely



Alex S Unwin

Chief Executive Officer

Appendix 1 Sydney Metro Bike Network

