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Subject: M4-East-Widening EIS | Public Display Response - Landscape Matters

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- Date: 12 September 2014
 - **To:** NSWG-DP&E Major Projects Assessments
 - Cc: J Clark (I*) AiL+TIDE, P Blackman (I*) AiL-Culture



M4-East-Widening EIS | Public Display Response – Landscape Matters [Class: Statutory]

To: NSW Dept of Planning & Environment – Major Projects Assessments – "Westconnex M4 Widening"

The NSWG EIS project proposal of an "M4-East-Widening" (M4EW) is a justifiable and worthwhile development; without referring to NSWG policy for a 'WESTCONNEX'-yet to be defined by appraisal of options-East of Homebush Bay Drive.

The M4EW landscape matters are expertly described within the limits of the EIS project corridor. (Ref: EIS-WP-Appx-F.)

The M4EW EIS does not address the global whole of a motorway landscape experience within context of its M4 corridor. This has implications for associated works that ought be conducted by RMS + Infrastructure NSW for a beautiful corridor.

M4 MOTORWAY:

A. M4-WEST; WEST OF PARRAMATTA - SOUTH OF BLACKTOWN & PENRITH - TO - LAPSTONE, BLUE MOUNTAINS

Key points

- This major part of the whole M4 corridor joins Sydney across its great western plain and flood plains into the foothills.
- All of its remnant landscape character is highly variegated and retains a general semblance of once natural condition.
- A public, visual language of landscape maintenance is variegated too; as too has sprung a disssembly of advertising.
- A major thought ought be considered that would lead to enhancing the tourism/commuter/travel benefits for viewers.
- <u>One-days gift-of-revenue* from the first toll-week on the M4EW ought to afford a landscape upgrade to M4-WEST</u>.
 *A One-week gift-of-revenue from the M4EW ought to be sufficient for a Landscape Management Plan and maintenance for at least a 5-year period. It can be an ideal opportunity for NSW-RMS to display the best practice of its QA process for landscape development.

B. M4—EAST (EAST-TRANSITION); EAST OF HOMEBUSH BAY DVE — LINKS TO (A) WESTCONNEX* & ALL-OPTIONS — LINKS TO (B) PARRAMATTA ROAD UPGRADE — LINKS TO (C) OTHER LOCAL ROUTE ROADS

Key points

- This minor—but important—part of whole M4 corridor, links the M4 majority (@ Homebush Bay Drive) to the EAST; (a) to/from Parramatta Road; (ii) to/from Concord Road & Other Local Route Roads; and (iii) WestConnector-Options.
- No known absolute plans are known for short-term upgrading of this "M4-East-Transition" Key corridor-zone.
- The "M4-East-Transition" is a 'key' corridor-zone, it is designed as four-lanes to 'funnel' traffic-speed up/down.
- Once a future decision is made about the Westconnex proposal this "M4-East-Transition" Key-zone may alter.
- In the meantime, this important "M4-East-Transition" Key-zone can benefit from a plan of landscape management.
- <u>Aboriginal significance is layered into its landscape design of a Sacred Gymea Lilies garden built for Olympics 2000</u>. Key Aboriginal cultural motifs are the Gymea Lilies—which are neglected—and its wavy, serpentine garden-margin.
- Re-beautification of the "M4-East-Transition" Key-zone and Aboriginal Culture landscape ought be well maintained.

My observations are humbly offered. May they be duly considered for the benefit of an M4 community of viewer-users.

Kind regards

Lex

Lex Bewley | AiL | Secretariat | QA Director | Company Secretary

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