

F6 Extension Stage 1 Preferred Infrastructure Report

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BIKEast Incorporated www.bikeast.org.au

Submitted via https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects

BIKEast is pleased to have the opportunity to make a submission on the *F6 Extension Stage 1 Preferred Infrastructure Report* (PIR). We believe that providing safe, continuous, and connected bike routes will encourage more people to ride their bikes more often – an outcome that is consistent with NSW and Local Government strategies to realise the considerable benefits of increasing the mode share of active travel (walking or cycling).

This active transport corridor is used by many residents in the St George area to access the Airport, Inner West and Eastern Suburbs areas, and it is important to develop and maintain safe, continuous and improved access.

We endorse the comments submitted by Bicycle NSW on the PIR, specifically we support the proposed extension of the shared pathway in Scarborough Park linking to Chuter Avenue, Monterey for the following reasons:

- It provides extended Active Transport links to the Shared Path which runs over President Ave and then to the north.
- It provides greater Active Transport 'permeability' from the east side of Scarborough Park North to the west side. Walkers and riders will no longer have to go via busy President Ave or Barton St.
- It will help preserve the park area by directing people walking and riding bikes onto the path, and not on the present network of informal tracks.
- As the path will be raised in critical areas, it will help preserve vegetation. And wildlife will be protected from dogs as they will be constrained to the path.
- It presents educational opportunities on the wetland if viewing platforms and informative signs are provided (eg Baludarri Wetlands on the Parramatta Valley Cycleway).

We share the concerns raised by Bicycle NSW regarding the proposed on-road treatments for people riding bikes between Bruce St and Kurnell Ave in Brighton Le Sands. This represents a 'missing link' in the Active Transport corridor – and poses significantly increased risk to path users who are required to ride on the road for 700m – including Bay St.

We believe the property acquisitions required to provide continuous off-road treatments for people riding bikes are a worthy trade-off to provide a safer cycling environment for people of all ages.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Worthington
President, BIKEast

Yvonne Poon
Secretary, BIKEast

