

Bicycle NSW Submission

to

Roads and Maritime Services

in response to

Exhibition of Mona Vale Rd Ingleside Upgrade Options Report

Document Info

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INTRODUCTION

Overview

Bicycle NSW has reviewed the Options Report regarding the upgrade of Mona Vale Rd between McCarrs Creek Rd, Terrey Hills and Powderworks Rd, Ingleside to provide feedback to help ensure that adequate provisions have been made to accommodate and encourage the use of bicycles for a variety of purposes.

Definitions

- **The Plan** will refer to the Mona Vale Rd Options Report.
- **RMS** will refer to Roads and Maritime Services.

About Bicycle NSW

Bicycle NSW is a member-based association with over 30,000 members and supporters.

We engage with government, business and the community to promote, advocate for, and support cycling in all its forms as a sustainable and healthy form of transport, recreation and tourism. We are committed to supporting our Members and our affiliated Bicycle User Groups (BUGs) throughout NSW.

Our core mission is **to create a better environment for cycling in NSW.**

EXISTING BICYCLE ROUTES

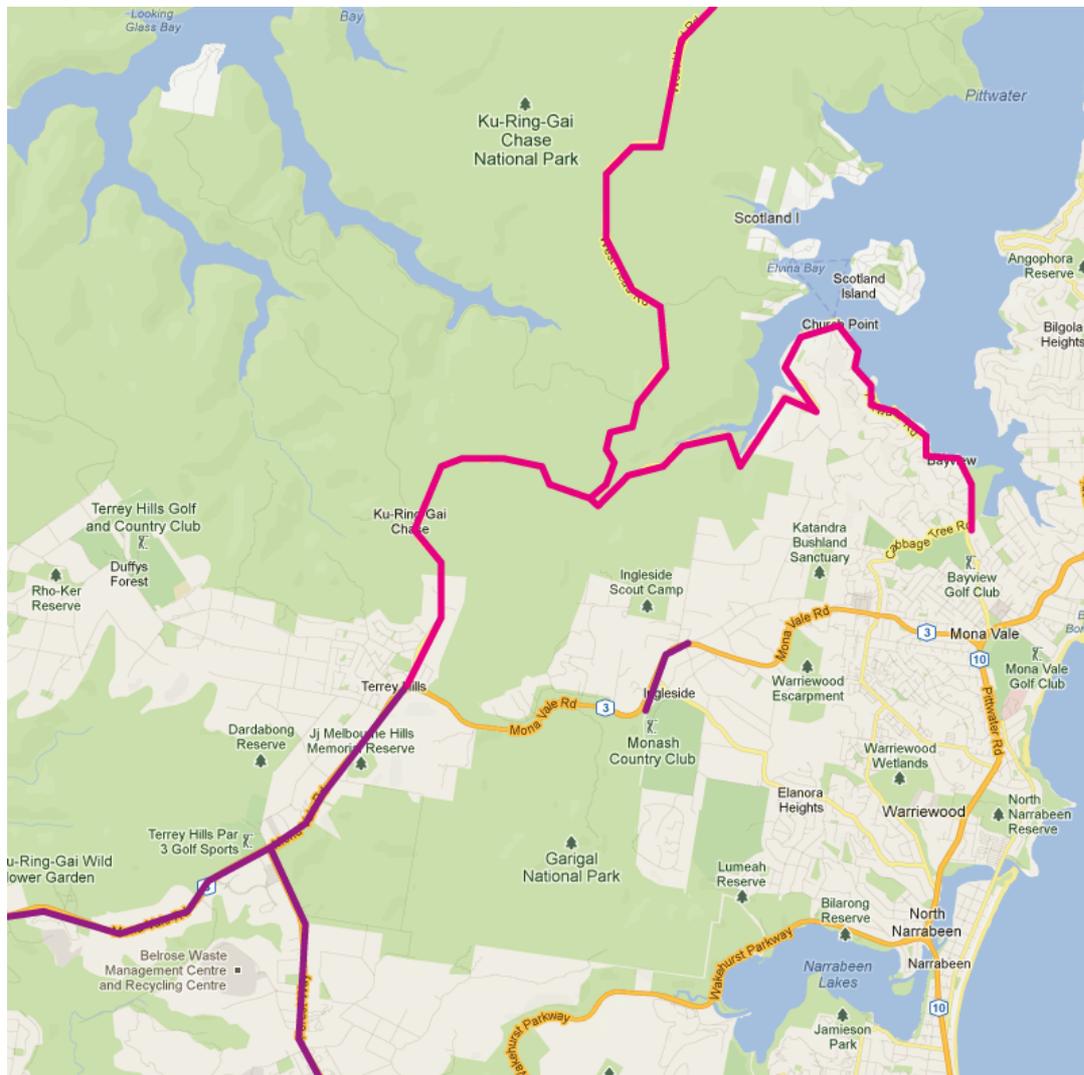
Mona Vale Rd is used by thousands of bicycle users every week. The majority of this use is between Telegraph Rd, St Ives and McCarrs Creek Rd, Terrey Hills where a large number of road cyclists connect to bicycle routes within Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park. These recreational routes include fast descents and long climbs that are used by experienced cyclists to test their fitness.

The road environment is not conducive to casual cycling due to the high-speed of motorised traffic. It is also not conducive to local utility cycling due to the long distances between trip generators (Mona Vale, Terrey Hills, St Ives etc).

Purple Routes - Existing bicycle facilities on road shoulders

Pink Routes - National Park and other low-volume roads

Figure 1: Current Bicycle Routes



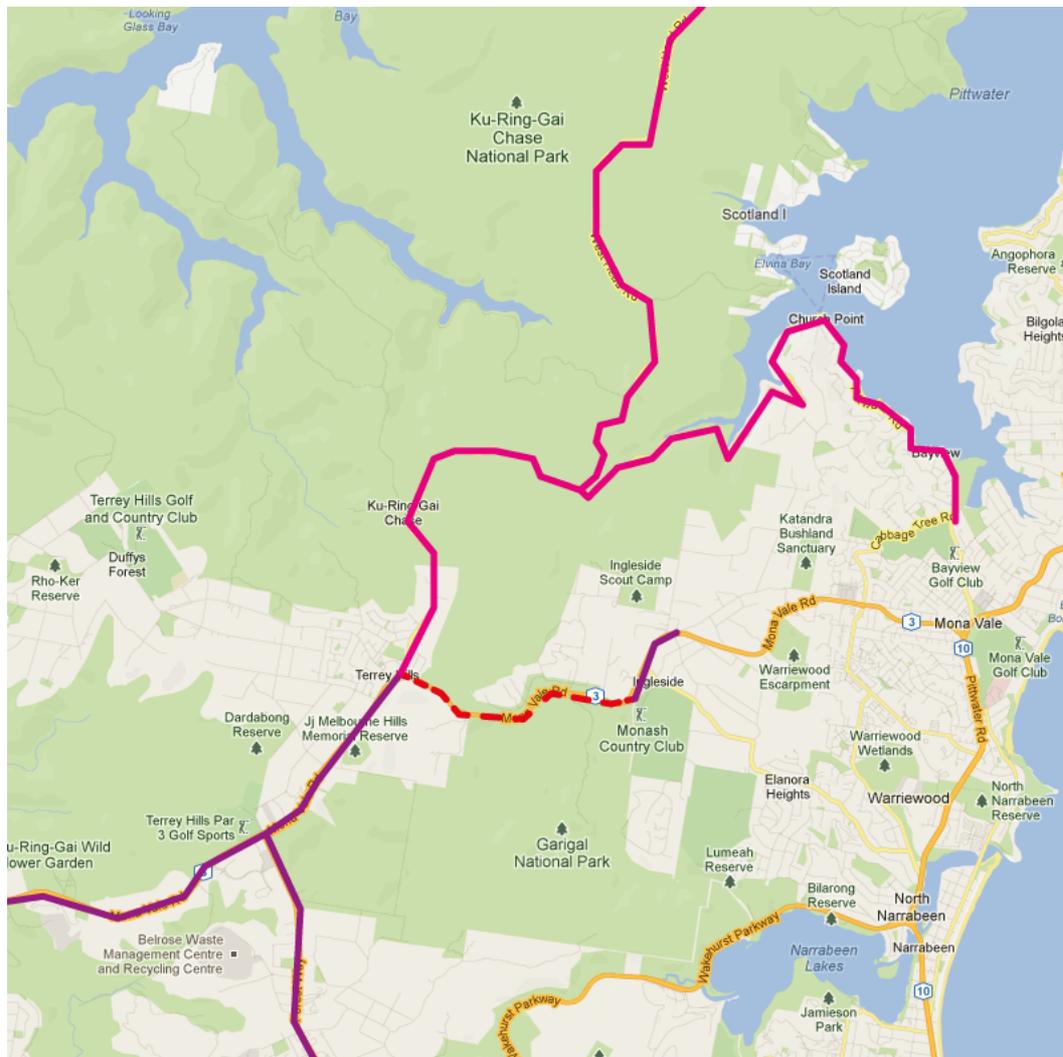
THE UPGRADE SITE

Currently, conditions are poor for cycling on Mona Vale Rd East of McCarrs Creek Rd. The wide road shoulders that exist between St Ives and Terrey Hills disappear and bicycle users have little option but to travel in close proximity to fast-moving motor vehicles. The dangerous cycling conditions has ensured that very few bicycle users continue along Mona Vale Rd East of McCarrs Creek Rd.

The absence of bicycle traffic East of McCarrs Creek Rd is not due to a lack of demand for this route, but is mainly due to the unsafe cycling conditions along this stretch. If conditions are improved, Bicycle NSW expects that there will be a large increase in the number of road cyclists using the new route.

Red Dotted Route - The upgrade site

Figure 2: Upgrade Site



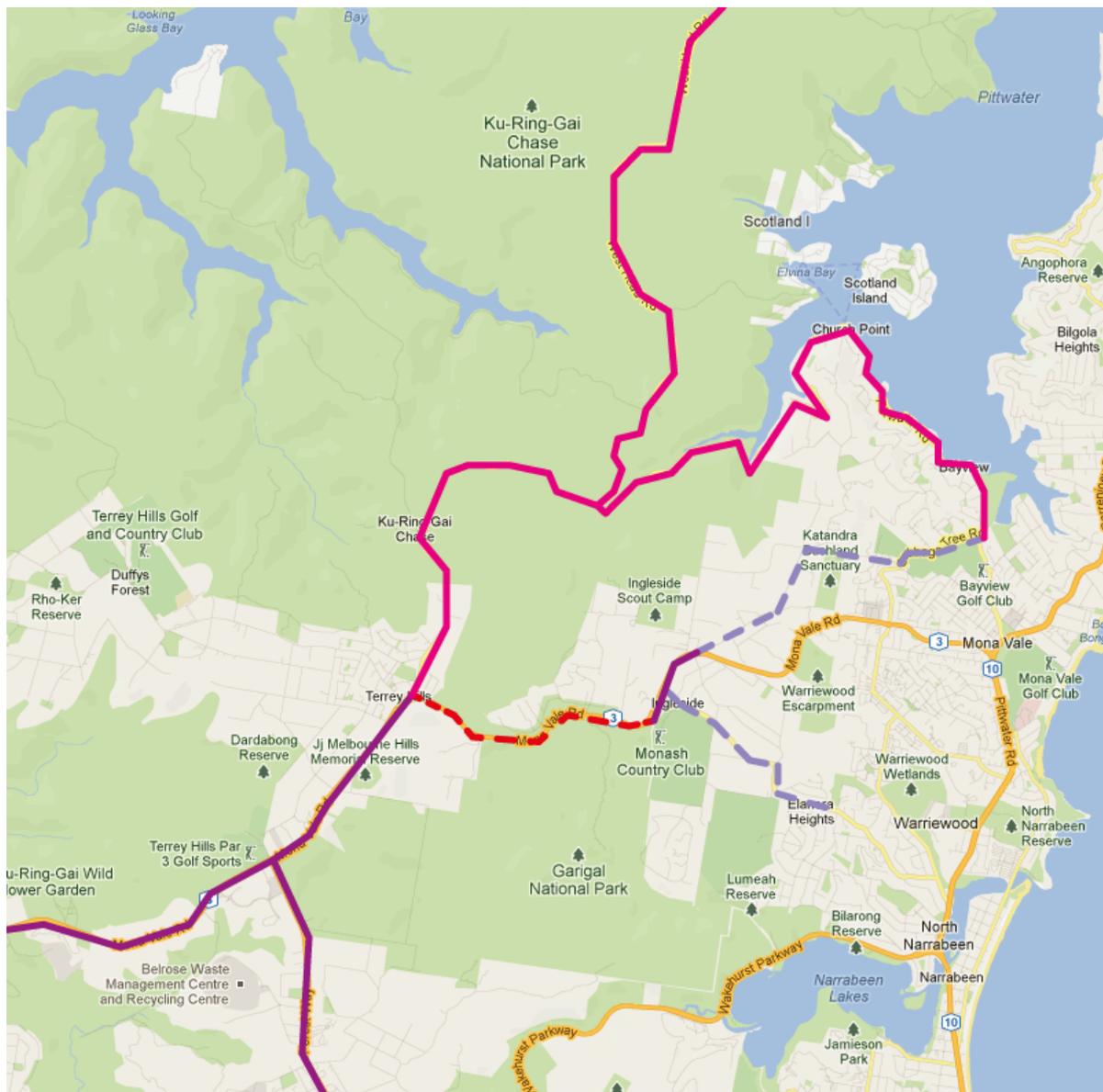
ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS REPORT

All options provided in the report provide vast improvements in bicycle amenity that will result in a large increase in the number of bicycle users travelling between McCarrs Creek Rd, Terrey Hills and Powderworks Rd, Ingleside.

It is important to consider the ramifications of an increase in bicycle traffic along the route and to ensure connections to roads such as Powderworks Rd and Lane Cove Rd are adequately designed.

Blue Dotted Routes - Additional routes that become viable after upgrade.

Figure 3: Feeder Routes



Currently, bicycle users wishing to travel West towards St Ives from Narabeen and surrounding areas tend to use McCarrs Creek Rd to avoid the dangerous section of Mona Vale Rd between Powderworks Rd and McCarrs Creek Rd. This is a lengthy detour that reduces the efficiency of using the bicycle as a transport option.

After the proposed road upgrade, it is likely that Powderworks Rd will see a large increase in bicycle traffic using Mona Vale Rd as an access point to Terrey Hills and beyond to St Ives and Frenchs Forest. As previously stated, bicycle traffic along this route is primarily made up of recreational road cyclists, however the improved efficiency of the upgraded route also improves its viability as a commuting or utility cycling option.

It is important that the intersection of Mona Vale Rd and Powderworks Rd is appropriately designed to provide safe access for bicycle users.

Currently, Mona Vale Rd is used to access Akuna Bay and West Head from Terrey Hills using McCarrs Creek Rd. It is likely that bicycle users will use the new section between Powderworks Rd and McCarrs Creek Rd to ride a loop encompassing Terrey Hills, Church Point and Ingleside.

It is important that the intersection of Mona Vale Rd and Lane Cove Rd at Ingleside is appropriately designed to provide safe access for bicycle users.

CONCLUSION

Bicycle NSW supports the upgrade of Mona Vale Rd and welcomes the planned improvement to the road shoulders which serve a dual purpose as both a breakdown lane and as a bicycle facility. All three design options contained in the options report provide a similar level of amenity to bicycle users.

We look forward to the provision of detailed designs that allow for comment on the intersection treatments and other details that affect the safety of the road environment for bicycle users.