

Mr Roberto Di Federico
Manager Traffic and Transport
Burwood Council
council@burwood.nsw.gov.au

2nd June, 2021

Dear Roberto,

RE: Sustainable Burwood Strategy

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed Sustainable Burwood Strategy, at the request of one of our members who lives in the LGA. Bicycle NSW has been the peak bicycle advocacy group now in NSW for over forty five years, and has over 30 affiliated local Bicycle User Groups.

The intention of the Sustainable Burwood Strategyⁱ to update the Green Action Plan is commendable. Bicycle NSW notes that the Green Action Plan included cycleways and we applaud efforts to improve active transport infrastructure that supports the Future Transport 2056 Plan,ⁱⁱ Disability Inclusion Plan,ⁱⁱⁱ and the Older Persons Transport and Mobility Plan 2018-2022.^{iv}

The bicycle network map below, taken from the Council's website^v provides some good connections but could be enhanced to enable more Burwood residents and visitors to mode-shift to bike riding for short journeys.



When considering the quality, safety and use-ability of bicycle infrastructure we recommend designing for independent use by 8-80 year olds. Families, children and elders will not switch to bike riding if the available infrastructure is a door zone lane or decal painted on the roadway that offers no protection from motor vehicles.

The pop-up cycleways have shown the importance of physical separation to the usability of bike infrastructure, and have also showcased less expensive ways to provide it.

Bicycle NSW has drawn together the relevant standards, policies and resources on our [website](#) and we are happy to support Council's efforts to test and implement cycleways and new treatments from the Cycleway Design Toolbox.

We encourage Council to enhance connections to Croydon and Strathfield Stations as key transport hubs, as well as to schools and community facilities.

Burwood residents have a lot to gain from the reductions in congestion, traffic, pollution and noise from implementing safe separated cycleways and these offer a greener, more sustainable, way for residents and visitors to move through the LGA. Traffic calming and speed reductions also offer the opportunity to improve the road safety of local streets for residents.

We note the excellent efforts of Burwood Council to plant more trees.^{vi} As members of the Western Sydney Diabetes Leaders Alliance, Bicycle NSW is acutely aware of the impact low levels of tree cover have on public health, urban amenity and people's ability to walk and cycle more on hot days.

We support and encourage Council's efforts to create a Sustainable Burwood Strategy and we would be happy to contribute if needed.

Yours faithfully,

Bastien Wallace – BA LLB

General Manager of Public Affairs

Bicycle NSW

ⁱ Burwood Council [online as at 2/6/2021] <https://www.burwood.nsw.gov.au/Our-Council/Have-Your-Say/Community-Consultation/Sustainable-Burwood-Strategy>

ⁱⁱ NSW Government, Future Transport 2056 [Online 1/4/2020] <https://future.transport.nsw.gov.au/plans/future-transport-strategy/future-transport-greater-sydney>, Points 3-5

ⁱⁱⁱ NSW Government, Disability Inclusion Plan (2015) [Online 1/4/2020] <https://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/download?file=313495>

^{iv} NSW Government, Older Persons Transport and Mobility Plan 2018-2022 (2018) [Online 1/4/2020] https://future.transport.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/media/documents/2018/Older%20Persons%20Transport%20and%20Mobility%20Plan_0.pdf

^v Burwood Council [online as at 2/6/2021] <https://www.burwood.nsw.gov.au/For-Residents/Parks-and-Recreation/Cycling?BestBetMatch=bicycle%20paths|d00872fb-02f0-495d-b193-cd7972eefca8|26cb67a7-f4b9-4267-b9d7-72d0689761eb|en-AU>

^{vi} Burwood Council <https://www.burwood.nsw.gov.au/Home/News/New-page/Burwood%E2%80%99s-500-Trees-Program-continues-in-Wangal-Park>