

The Mayor and Councillors
Randwick City Council
30 Frances Street
RANDWICK NSW 2031

council@randwick.nsw.gov.au

29th August 2023

Dear Mayor and Councillors,

Re: Maroubra Road Cycleway will be key to Randwick's Active Transport Strategy

Bicycle NSW is very disappointed to learn that councillors voted to delete the Maroubra Road cycleway from the Maroubra Junction Public Domain Masterplan at the Ordinary Council meeting held on 22nd August 2023.

We strongly encourage the councillors to rescind this section of the motion at tonight's Extraordinary Council meeting, namely: Point e) the Maroubra Road Cycleway be deleted.

It is important to highlight that Randwick's new Active Transport Strategy is currently being prepared. The draft documents will be on public exhibition towards the end of 2023. **We request that a decision about the Maroubra Road cycleway is deferred, pending the outcomes of this work and the consultation activities that will establish the priority of cycle routes across the Randwick LGA.**

Maroubra Road is one of eastern Sydney's busiest traffic corridors. It provides a direct and level link between the rapidly-growing Eastgardens precinct, Maroubra Junction and Maroubra Beach. Transport for NSW has identified this route as a [Strategic Cycleway Corridor](#).

Separated cycleways have long been identified as key to an integrated bike network in south-east Sydney. What's more, they're fair for people of all ages and abilities. Without separation from car traffic, 70% of the population who would like to drive less and cycle more can't. This includes children, people with disabilities, the elderly. Importantly, 70% of women won't ride without safe, separated bicycle infrastructure.

It is essential to provide safe, comfortable and attractive active transport facilities to ensure that people can easily make daily trips without driving. Randwick will grind to a halt as population increases without a strong commitment from all levels of government to reduce car use.

Separated cycleways are key to realising the Maroubra Public Domain Masterplan. The new Active Travel Strategy will include separated cycleways for strategic regional routes, recognising that best-practice infrastructure is crucial to encourage modal shift and a less congested, less polluted, more equitable future Randwick.

Our submission for the [Maroubra Junction Public Domain Masterplan](#) acknowledged the need for active travel in and through Maroubra Junction:

'Maroubra Junction epitomises the poor urban design found in many Australian town centres. Incremental planning decisions over several decades to prioritise access by car have created a hostile environment for people walking and cycling. Far too much of road network is dedicated to the movement and storage of

private vehicles. The intersections are dangerous, the footpaths are too narrow, the traffic is fast-moving and noisy, and the long distances between crossings encourage pedestrians to take risks.'

We congratulated Randwick City Council for its willingness to address this problem and highlighted the bi-directional cycleways on Maroubra Road and Anzac Parade as exemplifying an '*impressive strategy to revitalise this important urban centre.*'

The decision to erase the cycleway gives rise the following questions:

1. How will this decision improve safety for vulnerable road users wishing to walk or travel by bicycle?
2. How does prioritising road space for vehicle movement and storage align with the Road User Space Allocation policy and Future Transport Strategy, both highlighted in the Public Domain Master Plan?
3. How will this decision support Randwick City Council's Net Zero aspirations of: 1) unique coastal environment (as opposed to a car park); 2) strong sense of community (and not a conduit for cars); the sustainability of our natural and built environment?
4. What facilities will remain in the plan to encourage community members and visitors to walk and ride more and drive less?

Please consider these important questions in tonight's meeting and delay any decision to remove the Maroubra Road cycleway from future planning until after the completion of consultation on the new Active Transport Strategy. We look forward to your response.

Yours faithfully,



Peter McLean

Chief Executive Officer
Bicycle NSW

Bicycle NSW has been the peak bicycle advocacy group in NSW for forty-seven years and has more than 30 affiliated local Bicycle User Groups. Our mission is to 'create a better environment for all bicycle riders', and we support improvements to facilities for pedestrians and cyclists. We advocate for new cycling routes to provide connections to jobs, schools and services for daily transport and recreation trips. Bike riding provides a healthy, congestion-reducing, low-carbon form of travel that is quiet, efficient and attractive for all ages with the correct infrastructure design.