

Mr Peter Primrose MP  
Chair - Joint Select Committee on the Greater Sydney Parklands Trust  
NSW Parliament House  
6 Macquarie Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

31<sup>st</sup> January 2025

Submitted via [email](#)

**Re: Review of the Greater Sydney Parklands Trust Act 2022**

Dear Mr Primrose and Committee members,

Thank you for raising this inquiry with Bicycle NSW. Under the terms of reference for the Joint Select Committee on the Greater Sydney Parklands Trust, Bicycle NSW wishes to make a submission.

Bicycle NSW is the peak body in NSW for recreational and commuter bicycle riders representing over 14,000 members across NSW. We have been advocating for almost 50 years to create a better bicycle riding environment for all bicycle riders. Bicycle riding is the 5th most popular physical activity in Australia and further growth is projected due to enhanced infrastructure and improved safety. Bicycle riding is healthy, social, beneficial to the environment and can be taken up by almost every age group and demographic. Bicycle riding is also proven around the world to be an outstanding social equity equaliser which is even more important with growing cost of living pressures.

This submission considers if:

- (a) the policy objectives of the Act remain valid, and
- (b) the terms of the Act remain appropriate for securing those objectives.

In reviewing the stated objectives and terms in the Act, Bicycle NSW believes that these objectives and terms are generally sound and relevant to the present and future needs. However, we note there is an opportunity to broaden out the objects to equally include consideration and inclusion of active transport.

We note that in a number of examples this is already occurring informally, however there are opportunities to formalise this into an updated set of objectives in the Act. This will ensure that if active transport corridors are updated or connected in the future then the Parklands can play an active or supportive role in that process and open up the spaces to more people.

One such specific example in the current Greater Sydney Parklands Trust Act 2022 is to add an extra object in as follows:

(#) to ensure the Parklands consider and include active transport modes and amenities both in and around the Parklands to allow users to travel to the Parklands, within the Parklands and as a thoroughfare to other locations which will boost the sustainability value and contributions of the Parklands.

This could also be merged or added onto objects (d) or (e)

For clarity, we note that recreational activities including bicycle riding is positively embraced and activated in many parklands and this is a very positive outcome for the entire community. This is already included in the objects, so we aren't referring to recreation. We are pointing out the opportunity for people to walk and cycle to and from and through the Parklands as a mode of transport and to reduce car dependency and transport inequity.

Thank you for your consideration of these matters. Bicycle NSW would be pleased to provide any further information or discuss these matters directly with the committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "P. McLean". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Peter McLean  
Chief Executive Officer