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Bicycle NSW feedback - Road Safety Program - Victoria Avenue and Edinburgh Road, Chatswood

1 message

Sarah Bickford <sarah.bickford@bicyclensw.org.au>

24 April 2025 at 00:30

To: email@willoughby.nsw.gov.au, Carolyn New <carolyn.new@outlook.com>, "Advocacy Officer, Bike North" <advocacy@bikenorth.org.au>, Andrew.Nelson@willoughby.nsw.gov.au

Dear Parisa,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposals for Victoria Avenue and Edinburgh Road.

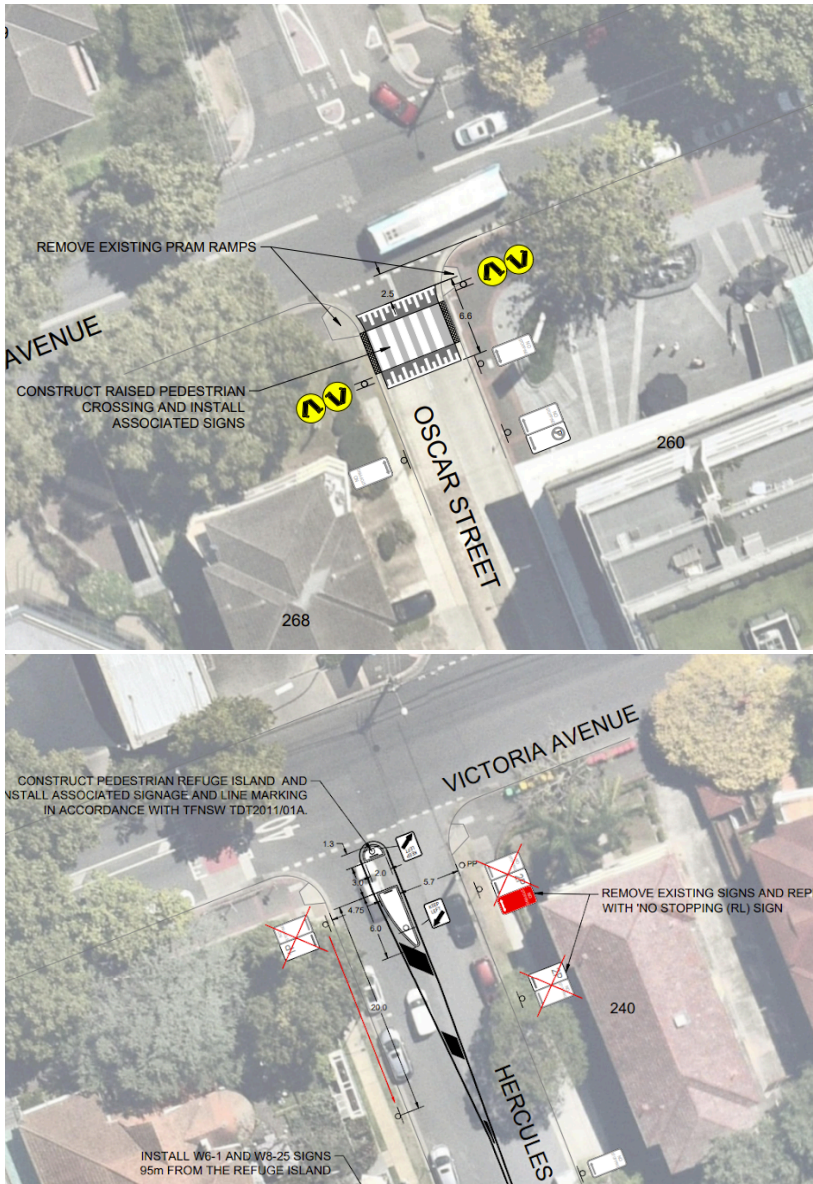
Bicycle NSW is a non-profit membership organisation operating in NSW that represents the interests of people who ride bikes. Bicycle NSW has been promoting bicycle use, behaviour change and effective bicycle user environments since it was established in 1976. Bicycle NSW has been responsible for many active transport infrastructure outcomes, supporting thousands of people of all ages to safely utilise bicycles for transport and recreational purposes.

Bicycle NSW has several concerns. We have identified that the new crossings and refuges are located on key Willoughby bike routes. Despite this:

- The proposals do not adequately consider the needs and safety of bike riders
- The existing and future bike routes are not clearly marked on the plans
- No consultation has occurred with bicycle user groups

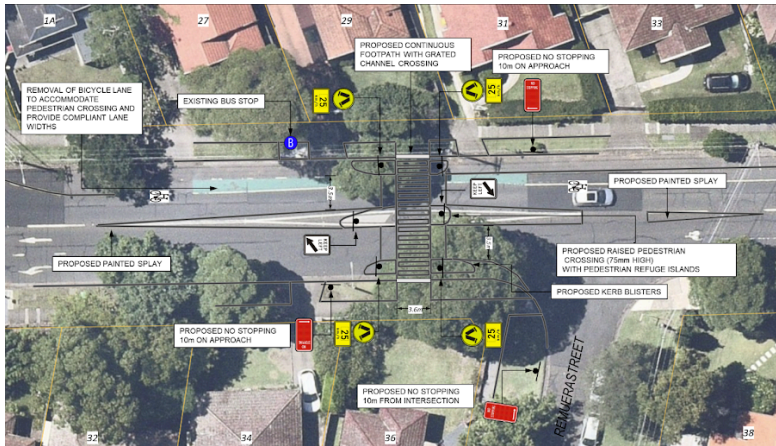
The **Victoria Avenue** plans completely ignore the bike route. It is not mentioned on the drawings or in the descriptions. The project misses an opportunity to help connect routes on Hercules Street and Havilah Street and fill a gap in the network (a gap that is clearly shown on the extract below from the [North Shore Bike Map](#)). This could be achieved with a short section of shared path and a crossing on Victoria Avenue; or with an on-road route supported by low speed limits, traffic calming and a holding area to help riders make the right hand turns.





The **Edinburgh Road** plan does show the bike facility but proposes to remove it! Bike riders will have to merge into the main traffic lane. It is true that mixed traffic facilities are a Transport for NSW Cycleway Design Toolbox treatment - but a 30km/h speed limit is required in combination with very low traffic volumes. There does not appear to be a plan to lower the posted speed limit, or install modal filters to reduce the number of cars using Edinburgh Road.





Before proceeding with the works, Bicycle NSW urges Willoughby City Council to:

- Consider the existing and future bike network and ensure that the crossings support and complement the bike routes - with the inclusion of a bicycle crossing adjacent to the pedestrian crossing where appropriate.
- Consult closely with Bike North members, who have detailed and granular knowledge of Willoughby's bike infrastructure needs. Local experts will help Council get the best possible outcomes from its investment in road safety intervention.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need further help or advice from Bicycle NSW.

Many kind regards,



Sarah Bickford
Bike Planner
Bicycle NSW

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