



Sarah Bickford &lt;sarah.bickford@bicyclensw.org.au&gt;

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**Bicycle NSW feedback - Sydenham Station Precinct consultation**

1 message

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

19 May 2025 at 16:41

To: shirley.rodriquez@innerwest.nsw.gov.au, Peter McLean &lt;peter.mclean@bicyclensw.org.au&gt;, Bike Marrickville &lt;bikemarrickville@gmail.com&gt;, Ellis Bou-Harb &lt;ellisbha@gmail.com&gt;

Dear Inner West Council,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input to the development of a strategy to improve the streetscape along Sydenham Road between Victoria Road and Sydenham Station.

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.

This congested, shadeless and dangerous section of Sydenham Road is desperately in need of an overhaul to

- make it safer for people cycling and walking, both along and across the road
- create more attractive connections to Sydney Metro
- encourage more people to leave their cars at home for local trips
- improve the liveability and sense of pride in a fast-growing and vibrant precinct

**Bicycle NSW urges IWC to include a separated bi-directional cycleway in the masterplan, in alignment with the Inner West Cycling Strategy.**

Creating separate spaces for people walking and cycling would be an absolute game changer. People riding would no longer need to use the footpath, improving safety and comfort for pedestrians. In addition, a cycleway would protect the footpath from fast-moving traffic and illegally parked vehicles. There would be space for more trees and seating.

The **footpaths should be continuous across the side streets**, and **new signalised crossings** for Sydenham Road are a must.

It may be necessary to remove **car parking** from one side of the road.

In its Going Places integrated transport strategy, Inner West Council established a hierarchy that prioritises people and sustainable modes of transport over private and polluting vehicles. The [Road User Space Allocation Policy](#) has recently been updated with an even stronger mandate to find a better balance between movement and place when designing streets. And of course, there is no shortage of evidence that people on foot and bikes support businesses, not parked cars.

Remember that [great places always have a parking problem!](#) Council should concentrate on making the best possible use of public space to create streets that people will flock to, even if they have to park off-street in a private facility or find a street space a little further away from their destination.

In addition, it is essential **to reduce the speed limit across the area to 40km/h** or below, in line with the agreed Inner West @ 40 project.

We look forward to rapid progress on reconfiguring Sydenham Road to double down on the rapidly increasing popularity of Sydenham Station as a multimodal transport hub which allows bike riders to make quick and efficient trips across a huge swathe of Sydney by combining cycling with the Metro.

Please do not hesitate to contact Bicycle NSW if we can assist any further at this stage. We are happy to help advocate for new bicycle facilities through our connections with politicians, Transport for NSW and neighbouring metropolitan councils.

Many kind regards,



Sarah Bickford

Bike Planner

**Bicycle NSW**

Gadigal Country

Level 9, 66 Goulburn St, Sydney NSW 2000

M: 0431 961 520 W: [bicyclensw.org.au](http://bicyclensw.org.au)

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