

ASHFIELD COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING
22 MARCH 2011

SUPPLEMENTARY ITEM

8 SUMMARY OF MAYORAL MINUTES

- 8.1 REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A CYCLE LINK ADJACENT TO THE INNER WEST LIGHT RAIL EXTENSION AND CITY WEST LINK ROAD. Edward Cassidy - Mayor. Report submitted with attachment 1.
(21/03/11) Transport & Infrastructure >Issues
h:\reports.bp\Council\Reports\CM220311MM_4.doc
MM4/2011 Attached

RECOMMENDATION

- 1/2 That Council write to the Premier and the Minister for Transport supporting the long term cycling needs of the Inner West as requested by Leichhardt Council.
- 2/2 That a copy of the submission be forwarded to General Manager Leichhardt Council

MAYORAL MINUTE

REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A CYCLE LINK ADJACENT TO THE INNER WEST LIGHT RAIL EXTENSION AND CITY WEST LINK ROAD

I am in receipt of correspondence dated 17 March 2011 in relation to support for the construction of a Cycle Link adjacent to the Inner West Light Rail Extension and City West Link Road.

To the capitalisation on this unique opportunity a request for support in approaching the State Government to immediately fund the link to provide for the long term cycling needs of the Inner West, letters of support to the Premier and Minister of Transport are requested.

Officers Comment

Phil Sarin, Director Planning and Environment – The proposal is a logical extension to the Greenway corridor and would provide a unique opportunity to link the Inner West with other major cycle routes.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 Letter dated 17 March 2011 from Mayor of Leichhardt Council 6 Pages

RECOMMENDATION

- 1/2 That Council write to the Premier and the Minister for Transport supporting the long term cycling needs of the Inner West as requested by Leichhardt Council.**
- 2/2 That a copy of the submission be forwarded to General Manager Leichhardt Council**



**COUNCILLOR E CASSIDY
Mayor**

Mayor's Room
Civic Centre

Office of the Mayor

Contact: Ken Welsh
Phone: 9367 9241

17 March 2011

Clr Ted Cassidy
Mayor
Ashfield Council
280 Liverpool Rd
Ashfield NSW 2131

Dear Ted

RE: Request for Support for the Construction of a Cycle Link adjacent to the Inner West Light Rail Extension and City West Link Road

The Inner West Councils have long been supporters of sustainable transport encouraging the construction of an extensive cycle network to assist in reducing private car dependency and fostering a healthy lifestyle for our communities.

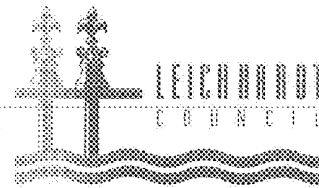
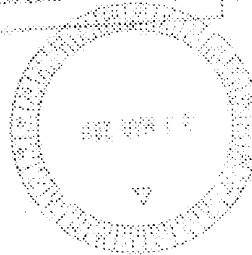
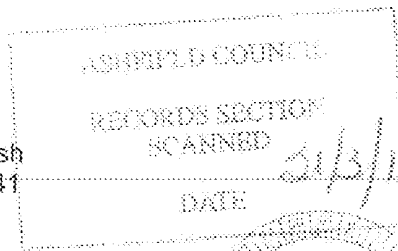
With the imminent construction of the GreenWay and The Inner West Light Rail extension Leichhardt has been examining initiatives which may assist in achieving practical, user friendly links to Sydney City's rapidly growing cycle network.

Having identified a need to connect the GreenWay, and other routes to the west, to Anzac Bridge it was recognized that Lilyfield Road presents a steep route which is unsuitable to many users. It is also counter-intuitive for cyclists from the GreenWay and adjacent areas who are headed to the City, as it requires backtracking to reach their final destination.

With this in mind a study has recently been completed which explores the opportunity of providing an off-street cycle link which could be constructed in the existing cutting beside the future light rail line, between Darley Road and Balmain Road. (See attached diagram).

This new cycleway would provide a much needed link between several very significant cycle routes including:

- Bay Run
- The Glebe Foreshore
- The GreenWay
- Dobroyd Parade/Wattle Street
- Glebe Island Bridge
- Anzac Bridge



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Consequently the proposed link will cater for both commuter and recreational cycle demand and assist in completing a significant section of Sydney's inner metropolitan bicycle network.

The benefits of such an off-street link are many fold and in summary include:

- Increased safety due to the absence of cars in its off-street environment
- Improved network efficiency resulting from the reduced number of cyclists on the street network, hence reducing cycle impedance to cars and public transport on the surface road network
- Increased uptake by new cyclists due to the improved safety, grades and directness provided by the off-street link.
- Increased cycling induced by the link will provide numerous environmental and health benefits to the community at large
- The public profile of such projects raises awareness of the value of sustainable transport and the importance placed on it by our Councils.

It is well recognised that the health benefits correlating to increased physical activity include reduce prevalence of:

- Coronary heart disease;
- Chronic kidney disease;
- Stroke and cerebrovascular events;
- High blood pressure;
- Obesity; and
- Type II diabetes.

Consequently the City West Cycle Link Project will offer substantial health benefits to the community at large.

As the proposed link will open up a more direct route to Anzac Bridge from suburbs such as Ashfield, Canada Bay, Concord, Five Dock and Haberfield it will greatly assist in achieving the Metropolitan Transport Strategy and the NSW Bike Plan's target of a 5% mode share for bicycles. It will also significantly contribute to the long term effectiveness of Inner Sydney Regional Bicycle Network.

An open business offer has recently been received to construct the link, for a budget of \$5 million. This includes all civil works (shoring, excavation, drainage, pavement and fencing) from the proposed Leichhardt North Light Rail Stop to the lowest point in the western approach to the Anzac Bridge. This link will contribute to the overall attractiveness of the network, a network that has been estimated to generate a net economic benefit of more than \$500 million.¹

It is essential that the link be progressed with urgency as there is only a very small window of opportunity to pursue this initiative, as it must be constructed prior to the completion of this section of the Inner West Light Rail Extension.

To permit us to capitalise on this unique opportunity I ask for your support in approaching the State Government to immediately fund this link to provide for

the long term cycling needs of the Inner West. I ask that your support be voiced in letters to the Premier and Minister for Transport.

In response to the urgency of this matter I would greatly appreciate you contacting Debbie Kosh of my office, on 9367 9217, to confirm your support for the project and any action that you will be taking.

Should you or your staff have any a questions regarding this please contact Leichhardt's Strategic Transport Planner, Ken Welsh on 9367 9241.

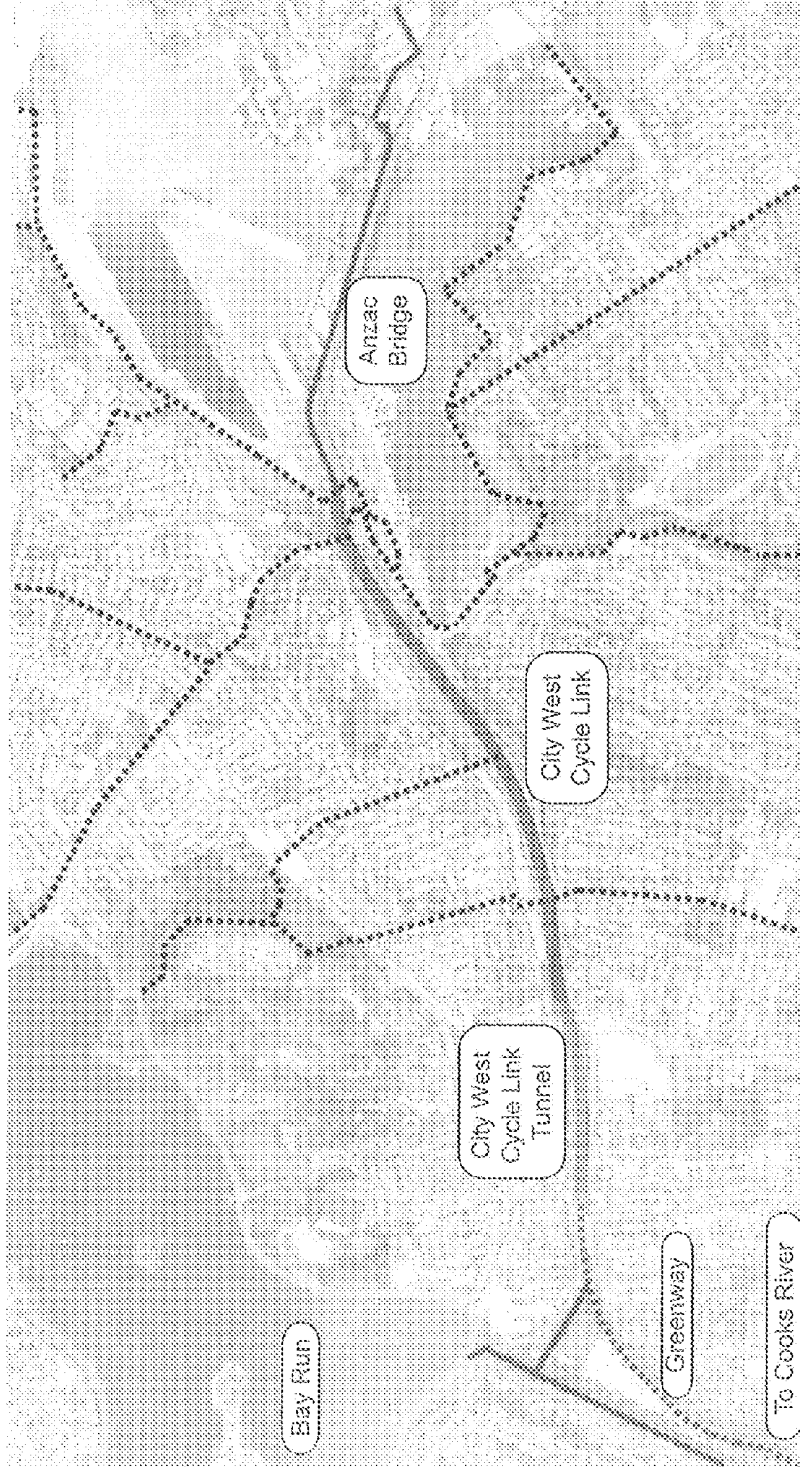
Yours sincerely



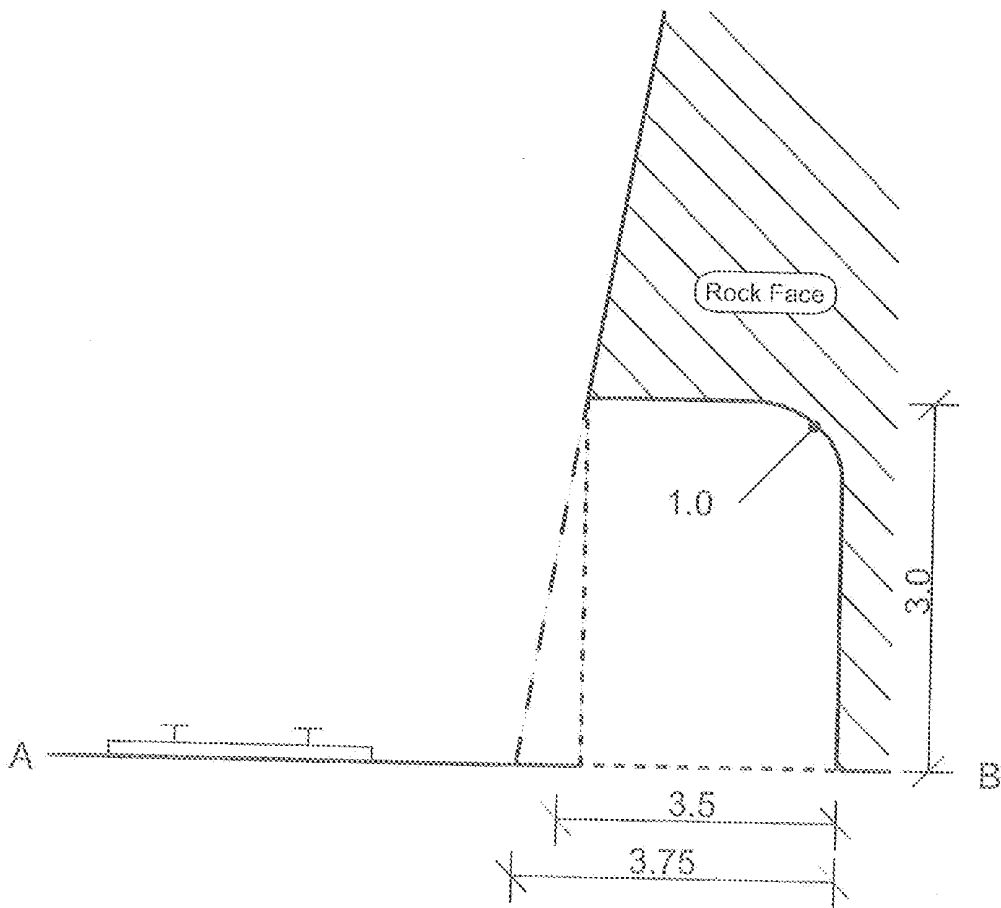
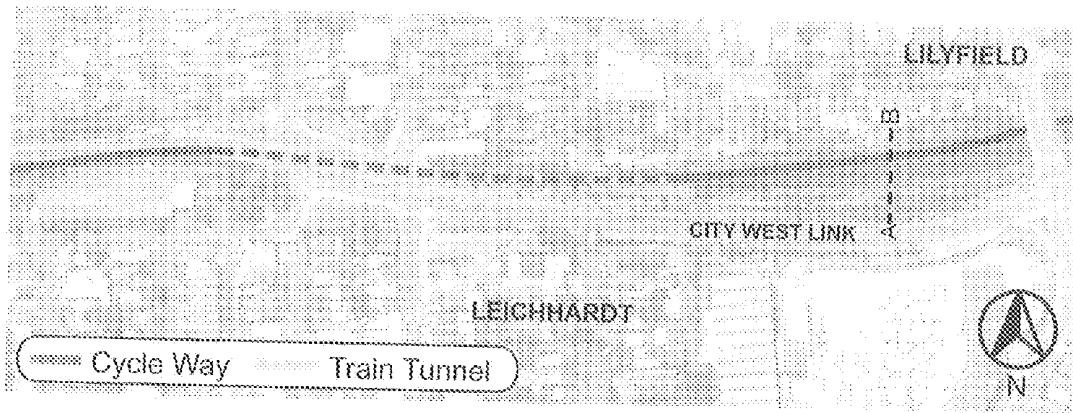
Clr Jamie Parker
MAYOR
LEICHHARDT COUNCIL

¹ Pviil, AECOM, Inner Sydney Regional Bicycle Network: Demand Assessment and Economic Appraisal, 2010.

Proposed City West Cycle Link



Cross Section Proposed City West Cycle Link



Cross Section Proposed City West Cycle Link

