



25 August 2010

Mr Robert Hunt
By email robert.hunt@westnet.com.au

Dear Mr Hunt

Cycleways

Thank you for your email supporting our cycleways.

I agree that increasing bike riding is necessary if we are to decrease congestion and travel times. We aim to make bike riding 10% of all trips in the city by 2016 – it is currently about 1% – and we have allocated \$76 million towards building a comprehensive 200km network of safe and attractive cycleways which will include 55km of separated cycleways.

Our campaigns to promote bike riding focus on congestion and public health. With increasing obesity and research documenting sedentary lifestyles, bike riding's ability to improve health is an essential component of our work to raise awareness of its benefits.

However, as Sydney faces a 23% growth in traffic over the next 15 years, the focus of our campaigns is to let people know that bike riding will take them where they want to go faster. Our messages promote bike riding and walking as viable and attractive transport options that will relieve pressure on already congested roads.

We are working to create a more amenable future where people can safely make the choice to walk or ride a bike for short trips instead of relying on a car or crowded, fragmented public transport. Every extra bike means fewer cars, more seats on public transport and a quicker journey for everyone.

Recently commissioned independent research shows the net economic benefit of building an inner-Sydney regional bicycle network would be \$507 million over a 30-year period, far exceeding the \$179 million building cost. Reducing the number of people who drive private cars around inner Sydney – because there are no other easy alternatives – will bring an estimated \$97.8 million in savings as a result of reduced congestion. This is equal to \$4.07 for every commuter who switches from car to bike in peak periods.

I appreciate you taking the time to contact me with your feedback on our work to make cycling a real transport choice in inner Sydney. I encourage you to also contact the NSW Premier, The Hon. Kristina Keneally to provide information about the need for safe and connected cycling infrastructure. You can write to the Premier at Level 40 Governor Macquarie Tower, 1 Farrer Place, Sydney NSW 2000 or at premier@www.nsw.gov.au

You may also wish to share your views with our Facebook group, SydneyCycleways, and to sign up for regular email updates on the City's cycleways website, www.sydneycycleways.net.

If you would like to speak with a Council officer about our bike riding campaigns, you can contact David Woolbank, Cycling Communications Officer, on 9265 9333 or at dwoolbank@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clover Moore." The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish underneath the name.

Clover Moore MP
Lord Mayor of Sydney