

## **Minutes of Bicycle Working Group Held via Skype on 15 October 2020**

The meeting commenced at 6.09pm

### **Attendees:**

Clr Mark Drury (Chair)  
Clr Tom Kiat  
Colin Jones – AshBUG/IWBC  
Bob Moore – Bike Leichhardt  
Sara Arthur – Ashfield BUG  
Neil Tonkin – IWBC  
Edward Fernandez  
Julie Whitmore  
Mike Cullen  
Suzie Carruthers

### **Council Officers:**

Ms Cathy Edwards-Davis - Director Infrastructure  
Ms Brigid Kelly - Senior Transport Planner, Strategic Planning (Facilitator)  
Mr Stephen Joannidis - Urban Amenity Improvement - Delivery Manager  
Ms Christina Ip – Business Administration Officer  
Ken Welsh – Team Leader Strategic Transport and State Projects

### **1. Acknowledgement of Country – Clr Drury**

### **2. Apologies**

Nil.

### **3. Disclosures of Interest**

Nil

### **4. Confirmation of Minutes – 20 February 2020**

Minutes of the Bike Working Group Meeting held in February 2020 were confirmed as a correct record.

Matters arising from minutes: Nil.

### **5. Update on major projects in the Inner West**

Brigid Kelly presented an update on the current and approved cycle projects in the Inner West and attendees made the following comments:

- The link at the western end of Lilyfield Road is insufficient and alternate routes have not been proposed. Brigid Kelly advised the consultant is working on alternate routes and will provide feedback
- A pop-up cycle link between Mallet/Booth St and Parramatta Rd had been proposed however, WestConnex contractors have raised safety concerns
- A bike path on the frontage of Balmain Road at Callan Park Needs to be provided
- With the proposal at Dobroyd Pde-Waratah St, the one-way section needs to be converted to two-way for cycling. The bridge at Mortley Ave to be widened. Brigid Kelly advised that the TfNSW proposal for this area will be revised next year and input will be sought from BUGs
- The route at Rozelle Bay is subject to heavy pedestrian traffic. The shared path needs to be widened to accommodate this and make safer
- The former Ashfield LGA is lacking infrastructure. In particular, the Croydon to Iron Cove link needs improvement
- Hills are no longer a disincentive due to e-bikes
- Cycle route at Charles St and Darley Rd Leichhardt identified as dangerous
- Reducing speed limits for vehicles on residential streets to 40 km/hr would make cycling and walking much easier and more pleasant

Further comments are to be submitted to Brigid by 2 November 2020. There will be opportunities to provide more comments in the future.

## **6. Draft Bicycle Strategy & Action Plan – your input on goals and actions**

In 2021 the Inner West Bicycle Strategy and Action Plan is to be developed. It will identify a number of strategies and actions to address to address these strategies. Members were asked for feedback on the following proposed strategies.

### Expand the cycling network to make cycling a safe, low-stress, convenient transport option

- Strategy needs to shift perception that bikes are only for recreational use
- Bike routes need to cater for those who do not use e-bikes
- More examination of overseas studies

### While a safer cycling network is expanded, fix problems for existing riders

- A study is needed on pinch points to confirm suitability for bike routes
- Pram ramps need to be realigned

### Embed cycling accessibility into all Council teams and functions

- There is inconsistency across Council functions
- Whole of Council approach by way of tick boxes are needed to ensure cyclists are considered in all projects
- Kerb ramps and driveways need to be built without a vertical lip to cater for bikes

## Support recreational and tourism cycling

- Signage could be improved casual riders and people not familiar with the area
- Historical information on biking in the LGA could be collated and made available through mapping or apps
- Making cycling safer for current cyclists encourages more people to take up recreational cycling

## Support people who want to ride a bicycle

- Improve cycling skills with subsidised courses
- Work with schools to encourage students to cycle
- Encourage Council staff and Councillors to cycle to and at work
- Reduce speed limits
- Encourage initiatives like a buddy system to build confidence
- London closed streets for a week to allow inexperienced cyclists to build confidence
- Consider cyclists delivering food

## Advocate for necessary change to the NSW Government

- Council needs useful data. Currently, Council does not have budget for participation survey from AustRoads

## Next steps

The cycling network will be developed throughout 2021 and there will be further opportunity to provide input. Cllr Drury suggested engaging non-cyclists.

## **6. General Business**

### **i. Increasing quantity and placement of painted bicycle symbols around Ashfield**

Sara has identified where bike symbols are appropriate and inappropriate on designated cycle routes and Brigid has received this. Funding has been requested for this work in the next financial year.

### **ii. Proposed meeting dates for 2021**

The following proposed meeting dates were confirmed

- Thursday 18 February 2021
- Thursday 17 June 2010
- Thursday 21 October 2021

The meeting concluded at 7.38pm.