

4 November 2024

Public Works Committee Tasmanian Parliament scott.hennessy@parliament.tas.gov.au

Kingston bypass and Algona Road roundabout

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Kingston bypass and Algona Road roundabout project as part of the parliament's Public Works Committee inquiry.

Bicycle Network participated in the two rounds of consultation for this project in 2021 and 2022 through written submission and verbal contributions at meetings. This is over and above our usual contributions due to the original designs being so deficient in the provision of safe access for people walking and riding.

It's pleasing to see most of these problems have now been rectified in the final concept map submitted to the committee. The Department of State Growth has a policy which requires all major projects to include safe access for people walking and riding and it's not clear why it wasn't followed from the beginning of this project.

It would have been preferable to have the detailed design information available to comment on for this inquiry rather than just the concept map provided. Bicycle Network supports the Cycling South submission which details the design requirements of the proposed new features such as the Channel Highway overpass and crossing on Huntingfield Avenue. These design requirements are also outlined in the new *Tasmanian Cycling Infrastructure Design Guide*, which we'd expect the project team to use to develop their detailed designs.

In addition to the Cycling South submission, we reiterate our concerns about the crossing of Algona Road, which could still be improved.

The current crossing and proposed crossing are at grade and so very difficult for people to use safely during peak periods because of the volume and speed of cars and having to cross two lots of two lanes of traffic.

The safer alternative is to travel east on the footpath to an underpass under Algona Road, which exits onto Coffee Court. There is no footpath on this street, which sees regular heavy vehicle movements in and out of Mitre Ten and other industrial businesses in the area. People walking and riding then have to circle up and around to get back to the new pedestrian crossing to be able to safely cross Huntingfield Avenue to the Park and Ride.

The project should include the building of a path to take people from the underpass back up to the shared path on Channel Highway. There is plenty of room in the road reservation to do this and it will make the journey for people riding and walking quicker and more direct.

This is especially important as the Huntingfield housing development proceeds and more people move to the area. Kingborough Council has negotiated with the developer of 1179 Channel Highway to provide a shared path through the block linking to the footpath at Sirius Drive, which will also help to complete the path network around the Park and Ride.

Yours sincerely

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