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JSC CROSS CITY TUNNEL

Action City East (ACE)

Jo Holder, co-convenor
Friday 3 February 2006

3 FEB 2006

RECEIVED

Reverend the Hon Fred NILE MLC

Chair, Joint Select Committee into the Cross City Tunnel

crosscitytunnel@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Nile

Response to criticism by Jane Anderson: request to strike from Hansard her abusive comments and allegations of lying.

In her evidence before the committee yesterday, Thursday 2 February 2006, Jane Anderson, President of the East Sydney Neighbourhood Association made a personal attack on a number of members of ACE, namely, Julia Perry, Norman Thompson, Stacey Miers and myself. In each instance the attack was highly personalised, abusive and unparliamentary. In my case it was highly improper. I was falsely accused of lying to the Committee, an allegation which Ms Anderson also levelled at Lee Rhiannon.

I ask you to bring this letter to the attention of the committee as a formal response to Ms Anderson's criticisms.

For the record, Ms Anderson's assertion that the Darlinghurst Resident Action Group commenced operation in 2003 is ill informed.

In fact the Darlinghurst Resident Action Group (DRAG) was first formed in 1973 to keep the heritage, diversity and tolerance for which the area is famous. Residents of Woolloomooloo (ROW) was also formed in 1973 to fight for a people's park on an area between Palmer and Bourke Street.

The period of the Green Bans cemented community links between ROW and DRAG and a previously existing group called WRAG (Woolloomooloo Residents Action Group). The three groups worked together for many years.

The original convenors of DRAG were artist Margaret Grafton and architect Colin James. James was honorary architectural advocate for The Loo residents. Local historian Honora Wilkinson and artist Brenda Humble are former secretaries of ROW. In 1977 the groups took part in the official opening for the first restorations under the Housing Commission Woolloomooloo Renewal Project.

The early RAGs (the Rocks, The Loo and Darlo and South Sydney) formed a Coalition of Resident Action Groups (CRAG). The late Marg Barry and Brenda Humble continued the tradition of a progressive social alliance and set up the Inner City Council of Social Services based in Waterloo.

DRAG was instrumental in the fight by residents to oppose the development of the 50 storey residential building on the ABC site in Forbes Street that became the Horizon. The group was involved in litigation in the Land and Environment Court in an endeavour to halt the building. Some current members were involved in this struggle.

Residents and businesses are using the Cross City Tunnel as an opportunity to re-link neighbourhoods fractured by the Eastern Distributor. Stacey Miers and other Woolloomooloo stalwarts like the community leader Trish Muller were involved in the long community consultation in relation to the Eastern Distributor.

This is why DRAG, 2011 Residents Association and ROW joined forces with Darlinghurst Business Partnership to undertake a series of public meetings which each featured several expert transport planners on the impact of road closures.

Jane Anderson's attack on Julia Perry was very unfair and particularly spiteful. Ms Perry has been an active and interested citizen who has paid close attention to the issues that are the subject of this inquiry, in particular social equity issues. She, like many others attended general community consultation meetings for the public and spent many hours at Sydney Town Hall since Clover Moore's Lord Mayoral Minute of 7 June 2004 announced her intention to also close Liverpool Street and other streets in East Sydney.

It is most unfortunate that Ms Anderson chose such an important forum to embark upon a tirade of personal abuse against neighbours who happen to disagree with her. It was a distraction for the inquiry. I ask you to strike from Hansard her abusive comments and allegations of lying.

Jo Holder

STOP TRAFFIC CHAOS IN CITY EAST

>> St John's Church Hall,
120 Darlinghurst Rd,
Thursday 2 June 2005, 6.30pm

FAIRNESS FOR ALL, NOT A FAVOURED FEW

City Council and/or the RTA want to close:

- Bourke Street—fully closed at William Street (south or Darlo side) and half-closed north of the Eastern Distributor entrance.
- Liverpool Street—close at Whitlam Square
- Francis Street—close at College Street
- Stanley Street—close so all traffic has to turn down Yurong Street

In addition the ENSA resident group want to close

- Liverpool Street—at Bourke Street
- Palmer Street—at Stanley Street
- Burton Street—at Bourke Street

THIS AFFECTS YOU:

1. Crown Street will be the only way to drive through Darlinghurst
2. Increased traffic in the suburbs adjoining East Sydney

COUNCIL CONTACTS:

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3. The RTA will stop access to the Harbour Tunnel from 2010 and 2011 postcodes other than via Cowper Wharf Rd or Macquarie St so Cross City Tunnel toll avoidance routes are blocked
 4. Restricted access to William St from The 'Leo
 5. The busiest intersection in Sydney will become William and College St
- Residents & businesses will suffer:**
- Delays and traffic jams
 - Fewer customers and delayed deliveries
 - Delays on bus routes, especially the 311 and 389
- HELP STOP THE MADNESS**
- CALL FOR A CITY EAST TRAFFIC PLAN
1. Attend the public meeting on 2 June at St John's Hall
 2. Write to councillors – 23 years is too long between Council Traffic Plans

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RTA CONTACTS
 Michael Costa, Minister for Roads:
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NO STREET CLOSURES COALITION – for more information:

Get involved! nostreetclosures@yahoo.com.au Or 2011 Residents Association, Darlinghurst Residents Action Group, Residents of Woolloomooloo or Darlinghurst Business Partnership. Visit www.darlinghurst.biz/d_r_a.htm and RTA www.rta.nsw.gov.au

2011 Residents Assoc, Darlinghurst Business Partnership,
Darlinghurst Residents Action Group, Residents of Woolloomooloo
(City East Traffic & Planning Coalition)

INVITE YOU TO A PUBLIC MEETING

OPEN PUBLIC ROADS

Local roads are deliberately blocked to create a "tunnel to the toll tunnel". Public meetings have overwhelmingly voted against road closures. Conditions are worse because public streets have been deliberately restricted. This is private sector extortion. Despite the outcry, public streets remain closed and the noose tightens on William St.

REVERSE THE CCT RELATED CLOSURES

10 CHANGES TO ALLEVIATE THE CRISIS

(Numbers correspond to MAP numbers, see map on reverse)

1. Open Bourke Street
2. Harbour Tunnel: re-open public access from Sir John Young Crescent
3. William Street: closing from 6 lanes to 4. Retain 5 lanes for peak "tidal flow"
4. William Street: re-open rear lanes for business access
5. Install a Roundabout at Bourke and Cowper Wharf Road
- 6 & 7. Reinstale the 5-way Roundabout at Sir John Young and St Mary's Road and full two-way access to Yurong Parkway (Boomerang Cresc)
8. Shakespeare Place: expand U-turn bay at Shakespeare Monument
9. Open Drutt St. No narrowing of Park Street
10. Traffic safety measures in "toll avoider" routes
11. Neldi Ave/Rushcutters Bay: bottlenecks; confusing signage ("Not on map")

BOYCOTT THE TOLL: WAKE-UP THE RTA & CLOVER

Tell Premier Lemna your complaints: post to Level 40 Governor Macquarie Tower,
1 Farrer Place Sydney 2000. T 92285259; thepremier@www.nsw.gov.au

PUBLIC MEETING: Open Public Roads

WEDNESDAY 19 OCTOBER 2005, 6.30PM

THE CREST HOTEL, 111 DARLINGHURST ROAD (near KX station)

Hear what expert local planners have to say; have your say
Also: ensure local communities have a say in the Council's new "City Plan"

For more info: Jo Holder T 93316621 (DRA), Kyle Cossa T 0411-664468 (DBP),
Julia Perry T 93312129 (DRA)

OPEN ROADS FOR ALL

CITY EAST GROUPS WIN NRMA SUPPORT TO RE-OPEN ROADS

The RTA has stopped access to the Harbour Tunnel other than via Cowper Wharf Road or Macquarie Street to meet the Minister's requirement that Cross City Tunnel 'toll avoidance' routes must be blocked.

There is no widespread support for road closures. Public meetings have consistently voted against road closures. Conditions are worse because our public streets have been deliberately restricted. This is private sector extortion.

10 CHANGES CAN ALLEVIATE THE CRISIS

(Numbered points correspond to MAP numbers, see Map)

1. **Open Bourke Street.**
2. **Access To The Harbour Tunnel:** regain public access.
3. **William Street:** closely monitor closing from 6 lanes to 4. Consider re-opening.
4. **Business Access on William St (Rear Lane Access):** complete access is needed.
5. **Install a Roundabout at Bourke and Cowper Wharf Road:** a mess.
6. **Reinstate the 5-way Roundabout:** at Sir John Young, Cathedral and St Mary's Rd.
7. **Re-Instate Two-Way Access to Yurong Parkway.**
8. **Shakespeare Place:** expand U-turn bay at Shakespeare Monument.
9. **Open William, Park And Druitt Street Streets** to allow east-west access
10. **Traffic Calming:** in toll-dodger routes is urgently needed.
- *11. **Nelid Ave/Rushcutters Bay:** a mess. Locals will have to use the Cowper Wharf Rd as Palmer St is now closed. (*Not on map.)

PUBLIC MEETING: CITY EAST PLAN

WEDNESDAY 31 AUGUST 2005, 6.30PM

The Crest Hotel, 111 Darlinghurst Road

SPEAKERS include John McInerney, Deputy Lord Mayor with expert planners and local residents Stacey Miers, Matt Hurst and Martin Butterworth.

DRAG Media Contacts on-Traffic:

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