

**Submission  
No 90**

## **INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE ROZELLE INTERCHANGE**

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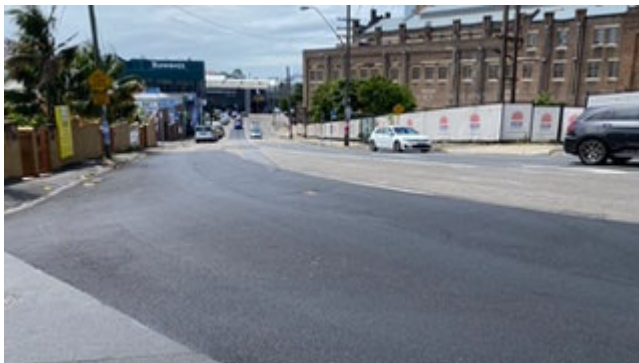
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Kobi,

Thanks for the correspondence you've sent me as a follow up in relation to the urgently needed rectification and rejuvenation works required of the road entering Balmain/Rozelle at Robert Street coming off Victoria road.

I enclose photos of what I hope is not a token and band-aid effort to address this issue with a few small patches of new tar???

The whole road is in need of resurfacing and I hope that you continue to actively pursue this matter, holding the other parties to account until this is done properly. This is not resolved!!



The hypocrisy of seeing the NSW Government banners as a backdrop to these photos, where they seek adulation for the rectification works to White Bay Power Station, yet it comes at the expense of the local residents and rate payers, in that their main thoroughfare is now an amalgamation of potholes, due to the White Bay Power Station renovation, The White Bay passenger terminal traffic and the continuous roll of construction trucks from the WestConnex harbour tunnel construction!?!?!

With regards to the subject matter of your email, regarding the disastrous Rozelle Interchange, I, nor any other resident of the peninsula, would see this inquiry CHAT FEST as any form of progress. A committee/inquiry that will take 5 months to have any outcomes, with a bunch of people, none, if any of whom, are affected by this disaster on a DAILY basis!?!?!? Who of any genuine knowledge of the significant daily issues, will be on this inquiry?????

We had the forum in Balmain in the Town Hall in early December.

I ask you a number of questions to which I'd like detailed responses....

1) What has happened to the immediate action that was promised at the meeting to help rectify the situation??? Light phasing and an ability to turn right are hardly solutions, as clearly evidenced by the fact that it still remains an hour long journey leaving Balmain for the city....EVERY DAY!!

2) Howard Collins stated, on that night that following his own personal observations over the first 7 days of the interchange being open, that there is no one using the dedicated turn lanes at Terry Street, Darling Street, Evans Street and Roberts Street!!! This was unanimously touted by the

residents on that night. So WHY is the Bus Lane still located in the second lane of Victoria Road, therefore reducing capacity of that road by 50%???? Even person who spoke at the meeting in early December echoed the comments that there is NO POINT in having a Bus Lane in the second lane of Victoria Road, where no passenger can board or alight the bus!!!! The Bus Lane MUST be returned to the inside(gutter lane).....ironically located where each of the 7+ bus stops are located, between the Iron Cove Bridge and the Anzac Bridge on ramp!!!

3) Why have we 'virtually' dedicated 2 Bus Lanes on Victoria Road, therefore reducing the capacity of Victoria Road for local residents by 33%? No one is able to use the gutter lane of Victoria Road between Terry and Robert Street, yet the buses now use both that lane and the dedicated Bus Lane, at the expensive of local traffic capacity!

4) Why has so much money being invested in multiple cameras around Darling Street to monitor bus lane activity. I think I can answer this one - REVENUE RAISING from the desperate local residents who are trying to lane swap on multiple occasions just to try and make it to work in what has now (conservatively) trebled as a journey, for the residents on the peninsula who live both east and west of Victoria Road.

5) We had the community consultation meeting in early December, where every government party and official got the chance to say that it wasn't their fault, but the fault of the previous Liberal government. WHO is actually going to take ownership of solving this, rather than just sending us a litany of electronic and physical mail telling us what has been achieved thus far!!??? Not a single 'initiative' that has been implemented has had any material effect on the thousands of local residents on their daily commute, to and from work, not to mention the ripple effect for all residents coming from further afield over the Gladesville Bridge.

6) Your note on this subject recently sent to us, as some evidence of industry, that things are being achieved, highlights the key points of focus, yet you have excluded the most important point. Put the Bus Lane back in the lane where it actually collects passengers and REMOVE the ridiculous dedicated left turn lanes that NO ONE has ever asked for, or needed. This will significantly ease capacity on Victoria Road and enable the road to be used to its capacity.

I hope to get real and meaningful answers to the above. The BUS LANE relocation should be the absolute highest priority on your agenda to achieve any type of material impact to this problem, before we await the outcomes of the CHAT FEST.

Thank you for your attention on this. I appreciate the responses, as always, and please realise that the tone of these notes is fuelled by the relentless frustration this disaster is causing every resident of the peninsula.

Cheers  
Rick Whaite  
DIRECTOR