

**Submission
No 162**

INQUIRY INTO IMPACT OF THE ROZELLE INTERCHANGE

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As a resident of Drummoyne I have been significantly impacted by the traffic delays along the length of Victoria Rd from Gladesville Bridge to Iron Cove bridge and beyond since the opening of the Rozelle Interchange.

The Transport Minister, the Roads Minister and Transport for NSW have shown little regard for the impact their actions and decisions have had on my local community and there needs to a better balance between the needs of commuters who pass through our suburb and those of us who live here.

We need to see Transport and our local Council, working together to fix the issues removing ambiguity of ownership and focussing their attention on resident to fix worsening traffic and safety problems every day. Review the changes to traffic flows and traffic lights on Victoria Road, Drummoyne
These delays have been further impacted by Transport for NSW's modifying traffic flows and changing traffic lights configuration to ease congestion in Rozelle and Balmain, making the situation along the Drummoyne stretch of Victoria Rd significantly worse.

The timing of traffic lights along Victoria Road makes it very evident that traffic is now being "held" along the Drummoyne sections at peak times to control traffic flow. This means at some intersections, such as residents on Park Avenue trying to turn left onto Victoria Road towards the city are sometimes left waiting (with all the Victoria Road traffic) and no one is moving – so frustrating!

These changes not only impact city bound travellers but also significantly impacts traffic heading in the other direction.

Crossing Victoria Rd E-W or W-E at peak times, especially at the Victoria Road and Lyons Road intersection. – This is a major issue. At best, the timing of these lights allows 2 vehicles to cross. If any vehicles are looking to turn left or right from the junction, crossing can take up to 5 signal cycles. As residents we just can't get out.

A new traffic light placed on the RHS of Edwin St (East to West) makes Edwin St look like a one way causing much confusion with drivers not familiar with this area – it's a head on accident waiting to happen.

Unable to move around my suburb in peak hour

The priority given to traffic along Victoria Rd at peak times has made it almost impossible for me to cross over Victoria Rd (from one side of Drummoyne to the other) or move safely around the suburb.

In addition to increased journey times into and out of the city, it is now increasingly difficult to move around the suburb to drop and collect the kids at school or attend medical appointments, or many other things that cannot easily be rescheduled outside of peak traffic hours.

Increased rat running

Local streets are also now clogged with "rat running" motorists who, in turn, congest the local streets further impeding access to and from my home.

Transport for NSW needs to work with the City of Canada Bay Council to do whatever they can to improve this for local residents.

City bound drivers, turn left off Victoria Road into Lyons Road and peak hour after the Gladesville Bridge using local streets in East Drummoyne to travel at speed and rejoin Victoria Road at Park Avenue. Can this left turn be restricted during peak times ? Can it be restricted to local traffic only?

Google maps, Waze and Apple Maps also encourages drivers to turn left into Lyons Rd at peak times reinforcing the rat running.

Review the bus lane/left hand turn lanes only on Victoria Road, city bound, after Iron Cove Bridge

To have a bus lane in the 2nd lane, not kerbside, just doesn't pass the pub test especially given the buses have to move back to the left lane to stop. The effect of this is to block two lanes city bound. The 500X bus and other long bendy buses, cannot move easily in and out of the bus lane and the kerbside lane to pick up and drop off passengers, meaning they end of straddling two lanes.

The left hand only turn lanes are pointless - anyone traveling city bound from Drummoyne to Balmain turns left into Terry St, Rozelle. Making the rest of these left hand only turn lanes redundant.

Enforce the road rules

The long bus lane over Gladesville Bridge is not policed. It is used to bypass blocked lanes and drivers then either cut in prior to Lyons Rd or turn left at Lyons Rd to skip part of Victoria Road.

Other safety issues

The left turn off of Victoria Rd into Edwin St city bound is at a very acute angle to turn often causing drivers to reverse back into the bus lane (a major safety issue).

And while we are here...

If you are going to send representatives from Transport for NSW to talk to us at a community meeting and they suggest we use different means of transport like the ferries, please change the ferries' timetable so that some boats start their trip further down the river near us so we actually have a chance of getting on a ferry. What point is a new ferry with no capacity for passengers?