

Marshall St
Petersham 2049

Dear Mr Sartor and Ms Tebbutt,

I am writing to you to express my concerns about the Redfern Waterloo Authority's plans for the development of Redfern and, in particular, its plan to build a tunnel under the railway to Wilson Street.

I live in the Marrickville electorate and commute every day from Petersham to the CBD on my trusty bicycle. Twice a day I ride down the length of Wilson Street, to/from King Street in the south from/to Little Eveleigh Street in the north.

Cycling down what has come to be known as the Wilson Street "bike highway" has long been a welcome respite from the traffic cyclists otherwise encounter on Sydney's busy streets, especially at peak hour when drivers often become impatient.

The recent addition of a contra-flow bicycle lane at the south end of Wilson Street by the City of Sydney Council has been enthusiastically received by cyclists and has further enhanced the attractiveness of Wilson Street as an alternative to busy King Street.

I urge the Redfern Waterloo Authority to reconsider its plan to build a tunnel under the railway to Wilson Street. A tunnel would undoubtedly bring thousands more cars onto quiet Wilson Street leaving cyclists with no choice but to battle through the traffic. I ask the Authority to guarantee that a tunnel will NOT be part of ANY future plan for this area.

Rather than discouraging cycling and endangering the safety of cyclists by encouraging more traffic onto well-established cycle routes, the New South Wales government should be encouraging cycling (as well as extending and encouraging use of the public transport network), in order to work towards establishing a sustainable transport system.

Bicycles are good for the environment; they burn no fossil fuels and therefore create no greenhouse gases. They are also good for people; cycling is great exercise and a great way to shake off the stresses of city life.

Once again, I ask the Redfern Waterloo Authority to guarantee that it will not destroy the Wilson Street bike highway by building a tunnel under the railway to Wilson Street now or in the future.

Yours sincerely,

Mischa Barr