

**ITEM MAYORAL MINUTE - OPENING BENNELONG BRIDGE
FOR ACTIVE TRANSPORT**

Department Executive Services

Author Initials: AT

REPORT

When the City of Canada Bay went to our residents, visitors and businesses in late 2017 and asked them for their plans for our future, they told us they wanted better active transport links throughout our area.

The Rhodes Peninsula is a unique part of our area, and as part of our planning for Rhodes the City of Canada Bay must be focussed on ensuring plenty of opportunity for residents to get out into open green spaces and be active.

Council has previously made enquiries to the Minister for Transport and the Roads and Maritime Service as to the possibility of allowing the Bennelong Bridge T-way to be opened for cycling, and we were informed at the time it was not an option.

Over the past few weeks I have had further enquiries from residents and Councillor Andrew Ferguson about the possibility of Council writing to the RMS to further investigate this possibility.

I believe that it is time for Council to remove the road blocks and advocate strongly for local cyclists to gain access to Bennelong Bridge.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Mayor write to RMS advocating for access for cyclists on the Bennelong Bridge T-way rather than just restricted to the shared pedestrian/bicycle zone.

THAT the Mayor write to Parramatta Council requesting their support for the City of Canada Bay's desire to open up Bennelong Bridge for more active transport options.

