# Community Meeting Notes – Thursday 2 February 2023, Timbrell Park Five Dock

## East-West Regional Route

**Heath Street, Five Dock proposal to modify dedicated cycleway**

**City of Canada Bay attendees:**

* John Clark, General Manager
* Greig Schuetrumpf, Director City Assets
* Franco Guerrisi, Manager Roads & Traffic
* Sarah Corry, Engagement Coordinator

**Community attendees:** approximately 40-50

*Meeting opened by Greig Schuetrumpf who provided background information and detailed the new proposal to modify the separated cycleway in response to community concerns.*

**Community feedback:**

Approximately 15 community members spoke at the meeting with the following feedback.

In support of proposal to modify the separated cycleway:

* The separate cycleway presents a pedestrian hazard, particularly the concrete road blocks bordering the cycleway
* Cycleway as it stands is catering to non-residents
* Residents along the cycleway highlighted feeling unsafe entering and exiting their driveways by car due to the cycleway and parked cars causing blind spots
* Rickard St resident reported near collisions with drivers due to lack of site lines
* Residents questioned how many cyclists per week were using the cycleway as they only see them sporadically
* Corner of Heath St and Henley Marine Drive residents oppose the loss of parking surrounding their properties because of the cycleway, cannot enter their driveway safely
* Requests for refuge island at the Henley Marine Drive end of Heath St to also be removed or size of the island reviewed as vehicles are hitting it on right hand turns into Heath St
* Separated cycleway is having knock on effects for the wider neighbourhood
* Resident believes Council did not listen to the community and should have interrogated the original designs further
* Cycleway is being used for two-way travel despite being a one-way lane
* When vehicles parked on the western side of Heath St, the passenger doors open onto the cycleway
* Request for interim treatment once Council makes decision (given construction timelines are 3-4 months)
* Request to review associated costs

In opposition of proposal to modify the separated cycleway:

* Cycleway is a regional link and a project that will support the area and greater Sydney as road congestion increases; this is a strategic plan for the future of everyone
* Population growth is causing increased street congestion, and the regional cycleway is a solution
* Many cyclists are already using Heath St and feel safer with the dedicated cycleway
* The goal of the cycleway is to encourage less confident riders, and a dedicated cycleway supports this goal
* Removing the dedicated cycleway would reduce availability of safe routes for cyclists and is a retrograde step in promoting safe active transport

Separate points made:

* Concerns about speeding traffic on First Avenue
* Maintenance concerns for the existing median strips
* Council should review the rest of the cycleway
* Divert the route to Barnstaple Road