

Submission to City of Sydney Council Environment & Heritage Committee

Item 9: Design Plan - Rushcutters Bay Park

BIKEast, the bicycle user group (BUG) representing the interests of bicycle users in Sydney's eastern suburbs. Our area of concern includes the eastern parts of the Sydney LGA. As such, BIKEast is concerned that the current Design Plan for Rushcutter's Bay Park (RBP) omits measures for improving facilities for cyclists riding to the park for recreational purposes or riding through the park either to or from the surrounding suburbs.

BIKEast proposes that the Committee amend the Design Plan to ensure that the following issues are incorporated in the final design upgrades to RBP, consistent with the draft City of Sydney Cycling Strategy (SCS) and the Woollahra Bike Plan (WBP). A marked up diagram highlight the routes and design features is attached.

Off-road links through RBP: SCS Route 5 to WBP Routes 12 & 51

SCS Route 5, linking Elizabeth Bay and Darlinghurst, follows Roslyn Gardens. The map included in the SCS shows a 'connection to other routes' following Evans Road (one way) into RBP.

A route following Evans Road (one-way, eastbound) and through RBP connecting with WBP Route 51 coincides with BIKEast's proposal for a Sydney Harbour Cycleway; linking Circular Quay and Watsons Bay, and all the bays between. However, to ensure continuity between bike routes in CoS and Woollahra, separate routes providing westbound links between WBP Routes 12 & 51 and SCS Route 5 are required. BIKEast recommend the following specific items be added to the Design Plan to address this issue:

- ❖ Redesign Evans Rd entry to avoid conflict between bicycles and pedestrians.
- ❖ Off-road shared path linking the end of Evans Road to the bridge across the canal (nearer to the bay) – connecting SCS Route 5 and WBP Routes 12 & 51 (eastbound).
- ❖ Off-road shared path linking the bridge across the canal (nearer to New South Head Road) and the raised threshold on Waratah Street. – connecting WBP Routes 12 and SCS Route 5 (westbound).
- ❖ Off-road shared path(s) linking off-road path nearer to bay with Waratah Road – connecting WBP Routes 51 and SCS Route 5 (westbound).
- ❖ Ensure off-road links are designed in accordance with relevant standards: at least 2.75m wide (ideally 3.2m) with centre-line marking.
- ❖ Ensure appropriate directional signage is installed.

Bicycle parking facilities

The recreational facilities and pleasant landscape means that RBP is a trip generator. Council can encourage greater cycling participation by providing secure end-of-trip bicycle parking in RBP. Suggested locations include:

- ❖ Next to the proposed kiosk and toilets next to Reg Bartley Oval
- ❖ Next to tennis courts on western side of Waratah Rd (No.1, 2 & 5).

Recommended bike route linkages and facilities for bicycles in Rushcutters Bay Park

-  Evans Road Entry
-  Bicycle parking
-  RBP Link - eastbound
-  RBP Link - westbound
-  RBP Link - westbound
-  SCS Route 5
-  WBP Route 12
-  WBP Route 51



BIKEast thank the Committee for considering our submission and look forward to being invited to comment and advise on the implementation of our recommendations.

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