

17 December 2004

The Hon. Carl Scully MP
Minister for Roads
Ministerial Office
Level 36 Governor Macquarie Tower
1 Farrer Place
Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Minister

Re: Proposed Off Ramps From Southern Cross Drive to Gardeners Road.

Today I met with Randwick City Council West Ward Councillor Bradley Hughes and representatives of the Safe Tunstall Action Group (STAG). I understand that they will also be meeting with local MP for Heffron Ms Kristina Keneally later today.

I have noted with concern various issues that they have brought to my attention.

- **No EIS to be done.** I found it difficult to answer their questions as to why the RTA will not be undertaking an EIS for a project that has such clear potential to impact on the local streets off Gardeners Road between the proposed Gardeners Rd ramps and the Kingsford "nine ways" roundabout to the east.

I request that the RTA provide me with an explanation as to why an EIS is not considered to be required for such a significant roads project.

- **Is the Kingsford Roundabout Obsolete?** STAG reports to me that there is currently 73 accidents per year at the roundabout. This would seem to be a compelling argument that it is inadequate for current traffic demands. In the absence of an EIS, it is difficult to accept that a parallel upgrade of the roundabout should not also be performed with the proposed Gardeners Rd ramps.

I thus request clarification as to whether the RTA considers the Kingsford roundabout to be adequate to handle the increased east and north bound traffic along Gardeners Road to be generated by the proposed Gardeners Rd ramps.

- **No-left turns for Tunstall, Cottenham and Eastern Avenues?** The lack of an EIS and data on the Kingsford roundabout's capacity also means that there is an un-answered question as to what degree of severity the avenues/streets of Tunstall, Cottenham and Eastern (and perhaps Maitland and Aboud) will experience greater traffic volumes from cars seeking to access northern destinations by using these streets as rat runs.

I thus request clarification as to whether the RTA has assessed possible benefits of no-left turns on Gardeners Road at the intersections of Tunstall, Cottenham, Eastern, Maitland and Aboud.

- **Why no re-opening of Dalmeny Avenue?** Again, the undertaking of an EIS would enable Randwick's West Ward Councillors to evaluate whether there would be benefit in the re-opening of Dalmeny Avenue. There is a popular local impression that the past closure of Dalmeny means that Tunstall currently carries more than its "fair share" of traffic seeking to head north off Gardeners. STAG sees no reason why this perceived inequity would not be exacerbated by the proposed ramps onto Gardeners Road.

I thus request that consideration be given to the reopening of Dalmeny Avenue to allow for an equitable sharing of traffic flows between Sydney Council and Randwick City Council.

I must advise you that I will find it difficult to maintain my support for the proposed off ramps in the absence of clarification on these issues.

I await your reply.

Cr Murray Matson
MAYOR

CC Ms Kristina Kenneally
MP for Heffron