



MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, March 27, 2014

Welcome light rail opening should give green light to GreenWay

THE opening of the inner-west light rail extension presented a golden opportunity to begin work on a long-awaited walking and cycling route alongside the tram corridor, the Friends of the GreenWay group said today.

The NSW Government today opened the light rail line extension from Lilyfield to Dulwich Hill.

The government scrapped previously approved plans for a 5km GreenWay alongside the light rail extension, arguing that it could delay the light rail project. ⁱ

Friends of the GreenWay spokesperson Jennifer Kent said that the welcome opening of the light rail line would now help everyone focus on the best way to deliver a GreenWay.

"We always argued that it made far more sense to build a GreenWay at the same time as the light rail extension," Ms Kent St.

"However, now that the light rail line is in place, the inner-west community and the government can now work together to deliver on a green and active transport corridor running from the Cooks River to Sydney Harbour.

"The government itself has outlined the importance of the GreenWay corridor in its Sydney's Cycling Future ⁱⁱ document released late last year – now we've just got to get on and deliver it.

"The idea of a green corridor along this route clearly pre-dates the idea of a light rail extension, given it was shown in Sydney's first planning scheme in the 1950s.

"The four inner-west councils clearly remain committed to the concept of a GreenWay and we look forward to a co-operative and constructive relationship with the NSW Government."

NOTE: The GreenWay will include a 5km walking and cycling link and bushcare and water catchment improvements between Sydney Harbour and the Cooks River. It was infinitely deferred by the Coalition government in the 2011 budget. More information at www.friendsofthegreenway.org.au

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^{i i} See Minister Berejiklian's media release at www.friendsofthegreenway.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2011/11/DoT-defers-GreenWay.pdf

^{ii ii} See page 17 at www.transport.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/b2b/publications/sydneys-cycling-future-web.pdf