

Allison Waddington

From: Cherry Top Farmstay <cherrytop@bigpond.com>
Sent: Saturday, 13 October 2018 7:05 PM
To: ner
Subject: Legislative Council Government Administration Committee B North-East Rail Corridor

Thank you for this opportunity for comment.

Our Farmstay boundaries the North East line. We think it would transform our family business enabling us to continue to live here, our plan is to employ help as we get older too. We just invested \$100,000 hard earned on a bathroom for campers and a third accommodation. We believe a recreation trail between 2 towns will be a great drawcard for touring cycling and whole hartedly accept the governments compromise solution. For our mental health and the wellbeing of the community too the link with the falls is the cherry on top. Between us we have been in hospitality for 50 years all over the world and it is clear to us that there will be enourmous social benifits. We will be prepared to contribute financially a surcharge for recreation trail guests to support maintenance and take on the upkeep of the section bordering our property.

Why do I think the idea has been so slow to progress and indeed has come to an enquiry? I would like to offer a personal perspective.

We remember 2000 the steam train organised by Stuart Bryce came past and what a spectacle it was.

Those days are long gone and the North East line is now dissused and derilict.

In the intervening years and leading up to Lilydale's 150th celebration I served as Secretary (Lilydale District Progress Association) and made a point during that time to ask everyone I met if they thought it would be a good idea to get the train running again. The conclusion of that exercise was emphatic - "it would never happen! But it was great when it was here."

I believe that it is that strong sense of nostalgia which is being exploited by eliments in the community who's aim is to stop a recreation trail. These people have been able to muster significant support from land owners who are afraid of change and rail enthusiasts who have the capacity to challenge the independent report. Our neighbour Mr Venn has found 'anomolies' in a report. Specifically how many rail crossings are listed, but he has failed to count the one he passes every day outside his house on a side road. I assume side roads do count when it comes to the cost of safeguarding passengers.- but I am not an expert.

The duty of privilege is integrity and that is being lost here. Mr. Bryce's ex-vineyard has had better days (possibly due to another Vinyard opening - which supports the cycling) the new owner I speculate will do well out of the recreation trail. Mr Bryce's Military Strategist back ground has been played out in the 'accept no compromise' attitude of the organisation he chairs.

The fancifully conceived idea of a train is a strategy to stop the removal of the rails, depriving the rest of us of social and economic benifits. The benifits of the recreation trail are believable and supported by Tourism Tasmania.

We are happy to accept the ministers well thought out compromise. At the risk of trying to blow out the other's candle though I'd like to say if the train where to eventuate in it's most fantastic glory, let's say a Steam Locomotive carriages full of tourists all paying \$500 + and it stops here for passengers to stay or buy some fresh farm produce - some nuts, honey and blueberries...we simply do not have the capacity to offer a level of service that those people would expect.

Finally there is some urgency about this, if a bee colony procrastinated about where to swarm the hive would be lost (honeybee democracy) Our North East is in a growth faze at the moment and it would be a failure of government to procrastinate further.

Please support the decision so we can all move on.

Regards

John and Lesley Gallagher.
Thanks for choosing us...

Cherry Top Accommodation 'Cherry Top & Eagle Park' - 81 Lalla Road, Lilydale, Tasmania 7268 Ph: +61 (0)
3 6395 1167

National Winner of Best Farmstay Accommodation 2010 - Take a Break

Finalist 2013 Stayz - Pet Friendly Accommodation

<http://cherrytopfarmstay.weebly.com>

<http://www.facebook.com/cherrytopaccommodation>

Please consider the environment before printing this email