

Mr Stuart Wright,
Committee Secretary,
Legislative Council,
Parliament House,
Hobart. Tas. 7000.

9th August, 2012

Dear Mr Wright,

I would like to make a submission to the Legislative Council Inquiry into Integrated Transport Options.

I am retired and live at Kingston. I enjoy cycling and aspire to use my bike for transport around Kingston, between Hobart and Kingston and on longer touring journeys. I cycle regularly for exercise and enjoyment.

The contribution I would like to make is to emphasise the benefits of adding cycle lanes to any new roadworks or road upgrades. In the Kingston area the obvious existing road which carries a lot of vehicle traffic and which is, or would be attractive to cyclists is the Channel Highway: the route Tarooma to Kingston and return and the route Kingston to Margate and return. The Channel Highway serves two centres with growing populations – Kingston and Margate and surrounds. The Channel Highway provides routes between homes, workplaces and shopping facilities for a large number of residents/commuters and at present the state of the road (I've no idea why it is called a highway) for cyclists is poor. There are few adequate sections to ride safely between Margate and Kingston or Kingston and Tarooma and there are many stretches which are risky with no solid white line space at all for cyclists and at the same time minimal width for vehicles.

Kingborough Council has a Kingborough Cycle Plan which has comprehensive goals and I wish to urge the state government and this Integrated Transport Options process to assist/urge Kingborough Council to move forward with those plans. Councils have many and varied responsibilities and facilitating safe cycling is often not effectively a high priority (progress is very slow) whereas promoting cycling through providing safe routes for cyclists is beneficial to the community and the state, through better health profiles and also environmental sustainability and of economic importance to some people also by keeping their transport costs low.

Tasmania has some wonderful plans for integrated transport – I hope we can pursue them really energetically.

Thankyou for the opportunity to make this submission.

Your faithfully

Debbie Robertson
9 Roba Court, Kingston.