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Mr Stuart Wright
Secretary
Legislative Council Government Administration Committee B
Parliament House
Hobart
TAS 7001

Dear Mr Wright

Integrated Transport Options for Southern Tasmania

An integrated transport network needs to provide for people to travel easily and conveniently from door to door. Any public transport system requires a support network of infrastructure to allow people to walk or cycle short distances to access public transport.

The development of bus transit corridors and hubs as well as potential ferry terminals along the river need to be planned with walking and cycling routes connecting to them. A conservative catchment around transit hubs of 10 minutes travel time would require feeder routes of 500m for walking and 3km for cycling.

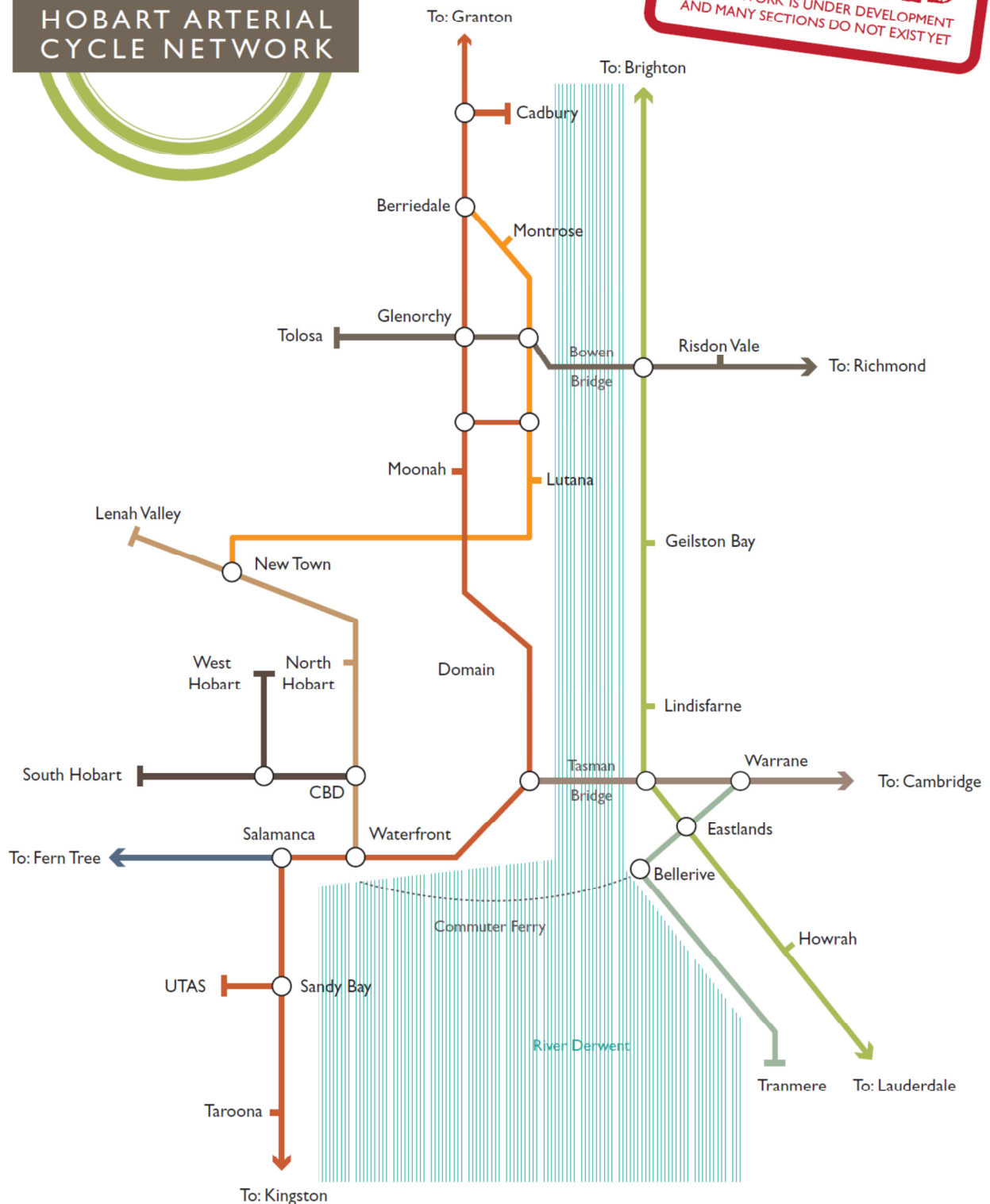
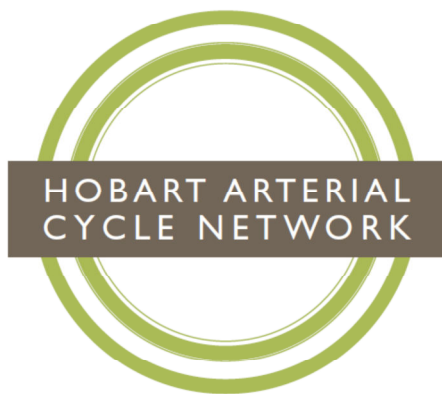
The routes need to be direct and attractive, safe and comfortable to use. The Heart Foundation's *Healthy By Design* guidelines recognises the importance of good design to make it easy and appealing for people to walk and cycle. Low stress connectivity is an important factor in creating walking and cycling routes. A study released by the Mineta Transportation Institute in the US in May 2012 found that *"for a bicycling network to attract the widest possible segment of the population, its most fundamental attribute should be low-stress connectivity, that is, providing routes between people's origins and destinations that do not require cyclists to use links that exceed their tolerance for traffic stress, and that do not involve an undue level of detour."* Stress points such as busy unsupported road crossings, poor quality and poorly lit paths and missing kerb ramps discourage walking and cycling, even for short distances, which impacts on people's ability to access public transport located near their homes.

The Hobart Regional Arterial Bicycle Network Plan provides a good framework for developing the cycling component of an integrated transport system for Hobart. In many instances, the network proposes multi-user paths which also provide for walking. Resourcing the development of this network to provide high quality infrastructure separated from traffic and suitable for walking and cycling is a fundamental component of creating an integrated sustainable public transport system in Southern Tasmania.

Yours sincerely,

Mary McParland
Executive Officer





A joint project of Brighton, Clarence, Glenorchy, Hobart and Kingborough Councils