

28 October 2018

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Parliament House  
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**Submission - Legislative Council Government Administration Committee 'B'  
North-East Railway Corridor Inquiry**

We live alongside the North East Railway at Karoola Station. Although this section of the line will remain (following the State Government decision) we feel strongly that none of the remaining north east rail should be destroyed and turned into a bike trail.

Bike Trail

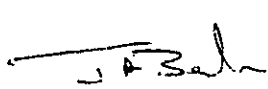
- Loss of infrastructure – why rip up an existing line worth \$40m?
- Not disability friendly – not everyone can or wants to ride a bike.
- Needs major Federal and Council funding
- How many people will use it after the novelty wears off?
- Security – public will have access to land adjoining the rail corridor

Tourism Railway

- Uses the existing railway, without using public monies.
- Everyone can use it from newborn babies to oldies.
- Investors have come forward and purchased the railcar, trailer and have pledged to repair the Karoola Bridge.
- Volunteers are restoring the railcar at least twice per week.
- Railway can be linked in with tourist packages to Bridestowe, Lilydale using coaches etc.
- Need to extend the State Government's decision for the railway to at least Wyena (Launceston Council border). This would include Denison Gorge and the Tunnel.

Tasmania is oversupplied with bike trails. Although the mountain trails in Derby are successful, these users would not ride the proposed bike trail. The existing bike trail from Billycock to Tonganah is not well used now so why create another one?

Why destroy an existing railway that needs minimal repair and upgrading? Doesn't make sense.

  
Janet & John Best 