

3 April 2024

The Hon. John Graham, MLC
Minster for Roads
52 Martin Place
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Minister Graham,

Rozelle Interchange

At its meeting on 19 March 2024, Council considered my Mayoral Minute regarding the Rozelle Interchange and its impacts on the City of Canda Bay community, particularly in relation to our Drummoyne residents. Council resolved that:

1. The Mayor write again to the Minister for Roads, the Hon. John Graham MLC, reiterating Council's request for a meeting with the Mayor, Council's General Manager, and the Director City Assets to discuss the impact of the opening of the Rozelle Interchange on residents and businesses.
2. Council continues to advocate for better outcomes for our local community on this matter.

I have attached a copy of the full Mayoral Minute for your reference.

On 26 March Council's Executive team and I attended a meeting with TfNSW staff, where I reiterated the concerns of local residents and Council regarding the significant negative impact the Rozelle Interchange has had on our community.

Based on the discussion at this meeting it is apparent that, apart from tweaks to traffic light phasing and continued monitoring of the traffic, there are no options or plans being developed to properly fix the problems our community is experiencing.

Further, the expectation is that Council will need to implement local traffic management plans to address the congestion issues on Victoria Road being caused by the Rozelle Interchange.

In addition to the significant disruption to our community, it now appears inevitable that Council will also bear significant responsibility and cost, as well as the degradation of the amenity of our local streets, to alleviate the problems the interchange has caused.

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Last week the Premier effectively stated that the solution for our community is the Sydney Western Harbour tunnel, meaning our community is expected to put up with this mess for a further four years.

I therefore request that I have the opportunity to meet with you to discuss a way forward to address the issues being faced by the City of Canada Bay since the opening of the Rozelle Interchange.

Please contact my office on 9911 6503 or belinda.gibson@canadabay.nsw.gov.au to advise your earliest availability for this meeting to occur.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Megna", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mayor Michael Megna
City of Canada Bay

ITEM 5.3 MAYORAL MINUTE - ROZELLE INTERCHANGE**Attachments: Nil**

Submitted by: Councillor Michael Megna (Mayor)

MOTION

1. That the Mayor write again to the Minister for Roads, the Hon. John Graham MLC, reiterating Council's request for a meeting with the Mayor, Council's General Manager, and the Director City Assets to discuss the impact of the opening of the Rozelle Interchange on residents and businesses.
2. That Council continues to advocate for better outcomes for our local community on this matter.

BACKGROUND

The Drummoyne community has suffered considerably from the failures surrounding the planning, construction and recently, the opening of the Rozelle Interchange.

Unfortunately, it seems Council's concerns about this project's impact on our community were not heard in the planning phase, and we were ignored during construction when road closures led to a standstill on Drummoyne's roads.

Now the Interchange has opened, and the problems have been compounded.

In addition to the standstill on our main roads, rat-running has resulted in bumper-to-bumper traffic on streets north and south of Victoria Road, and east and west of Lyons Road.

The band-aid solution after outcry from the Rozelle-Balmain Peninsula was to amend the light sequencing for eastbound traffic onto the Iron Cove Bridge, holding back traffic on Victoria Road to ease congestion further east.

As the Department would have understood, this change has merely exacerbated the problem in our area and shifted traffic further west.

What were once 10-minute journeys around our LGA have become odysseys. The Department and the State Government must identify and roll out immediate fixes and look to invest in long-term solutions.

Last month, a NSW Parliamentary Inquiry was established to inquire into and report on the impact of the Rozelle Interchange.

Recently, I wrote to the local community, advising them of the inquiry and calling on individuals who have been impacted by these changes to make a submission.

In addition to working closely with Transport for NSW on this matter, Council has also made a public submission to the inquiry.

Our local community does not want anyone playing party politics over this matter, they do not care who is responsible – they just want to be able to get to work, to take their children to school and for the gridlock to be alleviated from local roads that have never experienced traffic like this before.

Michael Megna

MAYOR