

**ITEM 5.3                      MAYORAL MINUTE - ROZELLE INTERCHANGE****Attachments:              Nil**Submitted by:              Councillor Michael Megna (Mayor)

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**MOTION**

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.
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**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.