

---

**ITEM 5.4**                    **MAYORAL MINUTE - FOLLOW-UP ON STATE AND REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE IN RHODES****Attachments:**            **Nil**

Submitted by:              Councillor Michael Megna (Mayor)

---

**MOTION**

That

1. The Mayor write to the NSW Premier and Minister for Planning and Public Spaces reiterating Council's request for a direct and detailed response on the matter of infrastructure planning in the Rhodes Peninsula, emphasising the urgency and importance of these infrastructure projects.
  2. Council seek a meeting with the relevant Ministers and senior officials from Transport for NSW, School Infrastructure NSW, and the Department of Planning, Housing, and Infrastructure to address these concerns and obtain firm commitments.
  3. Council communicate our dissatisfaction with the current response to the local community, ensuring they are aware of the challenges we face in securing essential infrastructure.
- 

**BACKGROUND**

I would like to express Council's disappointment in the recent response from Transport for NSW regarding our representations on State and Regional Infrastructure in Rhodes.

Following a notice of motion to our February meeting from Councillor Cordaro, Council outlined the critical infrastructure needs to support the Rhodes Place Strategy, which aims to accommodate significant population growth.

The response from Transport for NSW, signed by an official on behalf of Mr. Josh Murray, Secretary, Transport for NSW, entirely failed to provide the necessary commitments and timelines required to ensure the timely delivery of essential infrastructure. The key points from their response are as follows:

1. **Concord Road/Averill Street Intersection Upgrade:**
  - Transport for NSW has investigated safety, performance, and capacity upgrades, with a Final Business Case expected by mid-2024. However, there is no funding commitment for delivery at this stage.
  - A 2021 assessment did not identify a feasible upgrade option without significant property impacts.
2. **Concord Road/Homebush Bay Drive Intersection Upgrade:**
  - Similar investigations are underway, with a Final Business Case expected by mid-2024, but again, no funding commitment for delivery.
3. **New Ferry Wharf:**
  - While a concept design exists, no funding has been allocated for this project.
  - Transport for NSW claims to work closely with Council and other agencies to plan necessary infrastructure but has not provided concrete details or commitments.

**4. Parramatta to Sydney Foreshore Link:**

- Transport for NSW is working on a Final Business Case for the 91km continuous walking and bike riding route. However, there are no proposed early delivery projects within Rhodes East.
- Engagement with Council on the foreshore route includes a new bike path and promenade as part of the Leeds Street project, to be delivered by the Department of Planning, Housing, and Infrastructure.

This response does not meet the expectations set by the Rhodes Place Strategy. The lack of funding commitments and clear timelines undermines our efforts to support the projected population growth and development in Rhodes.

The Rhodes community deserves better than vague assurances and indefinite delays.

MAYOR



**Michael Megna**

MAYOR