



Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2009

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

# **HCC APPROVES SANDY BAY CONCEPT TO IMPROVE CYCLING AND PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES**

Following an extensive public consultation process to gauge community support, the Hobart City Council has approved a plan for detailed investigation, analysis, design, documentation and community consultation to improve cycling and walking facilities in Sandy Bay.

Lord Mayor Alderman Rob Valentine said the proposed project for a cycleway and improved walking facilities would be from the northern end of Marieville Esplanade to the southern municipal boundary. The public consultation into the concept proposal had a high level of community engagement with over 500 people, local businesses, schools, community organisations and sporting clubs providing input. The level of support for the project was over 86%.

“The Council’s initial investigation shows that high quality improvements to walking and cycling facilities can be achieved along Sandy Bay Road, but with changes to existing parking and road arrangements.

“A number of concepts have already been identified including one that could be summarised as being a two way “Copenhagen” style treatment, offering physical separation of pedestrians, cyclists, and motorised traffic along the riverside of Sandy Bay Road between Marieville Esplanade and the Long Point Road - Sandown Park area,”said the Lord Mayor.

“It is then proposed that conventional on-street bicycle lanes be provided on Sandy Bay Road from the Sandown Park area to the southern municipal boundary. To facilitate the installation of a bicycle facility on Sandy Bay Road between Marieville Esplanade and Sandown Park, it will be necessary to make changes to on-street parking and traffic.”

“Overall it is believed, given the analysis and observations to-date, that the project would not unreasonably affect the current travel times for motor vehicles using Sandy Bay Road.”

“The improvement of walking and cycling facilities along this riverside boundary has the ability to create a significant public asset which would assist community, visitor and tourist access to Hobart parklands, recreational and commercial activity sites.”



“It is the Council’s view that the cycling and walking facilities would create another key linkage in the arterial cycling network for greater Hobart. The project would connect a number of Council operated parks and reserves, along with providing better access to schools and the Kingborough and Southern Region, again with recreational, commuting and tourism benefits.”

“The Council will engage appropriately qualified consultants in traffic engineering, road safety and community consultation to prepare a report that involves final design, costs, funding options and opportunities for the project,” said Alderman Valentine.

For further information contact:  
Alderman Rob Valentine- Lord Mayor  
0418 127 323

79/09

