

The Hon. Gladys Berejiklian, MP
280 Willoughby Road
NAREMBURN NSW 2065

13 March 2019

Dear Premier,

Sydney Harbour HighLine

Enclosed is a copy of our recent letter sent to Ms Felicity Wilson, the present member for North Shore.

In the lead-up to the 2017 by-election for the seat of North Shore, you directed that the Sydney Harbour HighLine Committee be formed “to investigate creating a scenic walking track on this unique stretch of railway land”. You appointed Ms Wilson to chair the Committee which included representatives from the Sydney Harbour HighLine and Sydney Trains.

After 15 months of detailed work Ms Wilson, on the request of Minister Constance, asked the Sydney Harbour HighLine Association, as members of the Committee, to complete the Report to Government which it did in close consultation with Sydney Trains.

This completed Report was delivered to you, to Minister Constance and to other relevant parties on 12 December 2018. The Report

- includes design and costings provided by Sydney Trains; and
- requests the Government to reconfirm its commitment to the HighLine and to commit the necessary funds to build the scenic walking track from Union Street (near Waverton Station) to the present northern boundary of Luna Park.

Separately Ms Wilson was requested to advise details of actions she had undertaken since the submission of the Report towards securing funding from the NSW and Federal Governments.

To date there has been:

- no response from either you or Minister Constance to the Report; and
- no substantive response from Ms Wilson.

The level of community interest in this project is significant as evidenced by the fact that some 300 people attended the last community meeting regarding the HighLine. We have held off reporting to our members on the Government’s intentions but with the impending elections will shortly do so.

We are extremely disappointed with the Government's lack of courtesy towards the Committee and the Association.

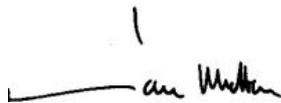
Regrettably the Government's approach is similar to that displayed when, with great fanfare, your Government announced its support for Wendy's Secret Garden, made a single donation of \$30,000 and raised expectations of ongoing support. Given the Garden is one of the most visited tourist attractions in NSW, the promise of Government support for this unique public asset was justified.

Regrettably ongoing support for the Garden has, thus far, been illusionary, leaving Wendy Whiteley to continue to cover the lion's share of the costs of maintaining and expanding the Garden.

The community is entitled to expect more than empty promises from your Government. Will your Government now publicly commit to

- fund the Sydney Harbour HighLine; and
- make an appropriate donation to Wendy's Secret Garden Trust?

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Mutton', with a horizontal line underneath.

Ian Mutton
President, Sydney Harbour HighLine Association

Cc: The Hon. Andrew Constance MP, Minister for Transport and Infrastructure

Attachment: Letter to Ms Felicity Wilson MP dated 26 February 2019.

Ms Felicity Wilson MP
Suite 3
40 Yeo Street
NEUTRAL BAY NSW 2089
Email: northshore@parliament.nsw.gov.au

26th February 2019

Dear Felicity

Sydney Harbour HighLine

I refer to your News Sheet “Working for North Shore in 2019”.

Point ‘7’ on your sheet refers to the Sydney Harbour HighLine and states - “Concluding feasibility work with the Lavender Bay Rail Line Committee”.

The Hon. Andrew Constance, MP, Minister for Transport and Infrastructure wrote to you on 29th September 2018 encouraging the committee to finalise its work in the form of a Report to the NSW Government. You conducted the final meeting of the committee on 12th October 2018 at which it was agreed that the SHHL Association would prepare and present the Report on behalf of the committee.

The committee had completed its feasibility work and hence the Report requested the NSW Government to confirm its commitment to funding the building of the Sydney Harbour HighLine.

The Report was concluded by the SHHL Association in early December 2018, circulated to committee members for review and submitted to The Minister for Transport and Infrastructure on 12 December 2018.

As you have reported to the electorate in your News Sheet that the feasibility study has been concluded, it is now appropriate for you to advise:

- a) Whether you have had discussions with the Premier or the Minister regarding:
 - a. commitment of the NSW Government to the Sydney Harbour HighLine;
 - b. the funding to allow the completion of the HighLine; and
 - c. the timeframe for release of funding and commencement of the project.
- b) The response you have received.
- c) The status of discussions with Mr Trent Zimmerman, the Federal Member for North Sydney, regarding joint funding from the Federal Government.

As the Association intends to circulate an update on these matters to its members and to the Press on Tuesday 5th March, I now seek your response on these matters so that your written reply may be circulated in order that they are fully informed of the NSW Government's position prior to the State election.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Bowman', written in a cursive style.

David Bowman
Vice President, Sydney Harbour HighLine Association

Cc: Mr Trent Zimmerman MP, Federal Member for North Sydney.