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Mr Michael Bushby
Chief Executive Officer
Roads and Traffic Authority
Locked Bag 928
NORTH SYDNEY NSW 2059

29 March 2010

Dear Mr Bushby

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Michael'.

RE: NOISE WALLS ON THE WARRINGAH FREEWAY

Council, the RTA, the Member for Willoughby and residents of Cammeray recently had a meeting to discuss noise walls on the Warringah Freeway. A copy of the minutes of this meeting is attached.

I continue to receive correspondence from concerned residents living near the Warringah Freeway, Cammeray requesting that we once again approach the RTA on behalf of the residents to request the installation of noise walls along the Warringah Freeway.

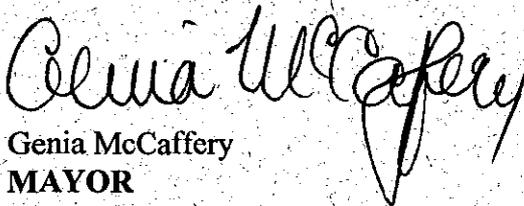
Council is acutely aware of the negative impact the Warringah Freeway has had on the residents of North Sydney. It has created a physical and psychological divide to the North Sydney community, and it has also brought about negative environmental factors such as noise and air pollution and associated health impacts. The volume of vehicles using this road has progressively increased. I have made representations to the State Government on a number of occasions pointing out that road projects such as the Lane Cove Tunnel Project seem to be able to attract funding, encouraging further reliance on the private motor vehicle. However, public transport, such as the north-west rail link or north-west metro, which actually have the capacity to carry Sydney's increasing population are promised and not delivered. Many residents of Sydney therefore have no option but to continue to travel by private car. This then exacerbates the negative impacts of roads such as the Warringah Freeway.

For many years, I have been asking the RTA to investigate the installation of a noise wall along the Warringah Freeway, between Brook Street and Miller Street. It is noted that noise walls are already installed through Naremburn, Artarmon and Lane Cove. This matter is a standing item on every North Sydney Traffic Committee agenda. To date, the RTA has not provided comments on this matter to Council.

It is understood from the residents that this area is listed on the RTA's noise abatement program. However, residents have been told it is likely to be 10-20 years before noise walls are installed in Cammeray.

If the Warringah Freeway were built today it would automatically receive noise walls along its entire length. It is only because there has been a gradual and steady increase in vehicle volumes and associated noise that this road has not been given the noise wall treatment which it requires. Since the Warringah Freeway was first built additional roads have been connected to it, such as the Gore Hill Freeway and Lane Cove Tunnel, which further increases vehicle volumes. As you know, this corridor carries some of the highest vehicle volumes in Australia. In this context, Council would request that you treat the Warringah Freeway as a "special case" and fast track funding for noise walls.

Yours sincerely,



Genia McCaffery
MAYOR

Cc Gladys Berejiklian Member for Willoughby
Jillian Skinner Member for North Shore
Joseph Fanous, RTA