



# Blue Mountains Conservation Society Inc

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## Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow

19 August 2018

To: Hon Melinda Pavey, Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight  
GPO Box 5341  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

cc Hon Andrew Constance, NSW Minister for Transport

[www.nsw.gov.au/contacttransportminister](http://www.nsw.gov.au/contacttransportminister)

Ms Trish Doyle, Member- Blue Mountains

[electorateoffice.bluemountains@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:electorateoffice.bluemountains@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

Ms Jodi McKay, Shadow Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight and Shadow  
Minister for Transport [strathfield@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:strathfield@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

Dr Mehreen Faruqi, Greens NSW Spokesperson, Environment and Transport

Mr Mark Greenhill, Mayor Blue Mountains City Council

[mgreenhill@bmcc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mgreenhill@bmcc.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Ms Pavey

### **Great Western Highway bypass Blackheath and My Victoria**

The Blue Mountains Conservation Society (BMCS) is a community based volunteer organisation with over 800 members. It is the oldest continuing environmental organisation in the Blue Mountains. The goal of the Society is to promote the conservation of the environment in the Greater Blue Mountains region.

On June 2018 you, in your capacity as Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, announced a proposed new 30 km duplication of the Great Western Highway between Katoomba and Forty bends including a bypass between Blackheath and Mount Victoria (see Blue Mountains Gazette, June 25 2018).

The Great Western Highway is the main road corridor through the Blue Mountains and any duplication or bypass proposal will have a major impact on the environment of the Blue Mountains, including on the internationally recognised Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. The announcement in regard to the proposed duplication and bypass was short on detail, including what public consultation process the government will undertake and when the public consultation process will commence.

As a community organisation with a large membership and a long standing advocacy for the local environment, the Blue Mountains Conservation Society asks that as Minister you:

- Recognise the Society as a key stakeholder in any community consultation process in regard to the duplication proposal.
- That you consult extensively and early (ie before any option development) with the Blue Mountains community.
- Consider the impacts from any options developed on the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.

The Society strongly opposes any duplication or bypass options which involve revocation of any portions of the Blue Mountains National Park or any reduction in bushland areas. The Society also opposes regional freight movements via trucks using the Great Western Highway, and instead supports regional freight transport via rail. The Society therefore does not support any highway upgrade that has, as its ultimate aim, an increase in the size or numbers of trucks using the Highway as a regional freight route.

If you have queries about this letter please the Society at the contact details listed below.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Madi Maclean", followed by a period. The signature is written in a cursive style.

Madi Maclean  
President  
Blue Mountains Conservation Society  
mobile 0412 428 202 or email [president@bluemountains.org.au](mailto:president@bluemountains.org.au)