



PARLIAMENT OF NEW SOUTH WALES  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

GREG PIPER, MP  
MEMBER FOR LAKE MACQUARIE

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The Honourable David Borger, MP  
Minister for Roads  
Level 37 Governor Macquarie Tower  
1 Farrer Place  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Minister

**MR217 MORISSET – LOSS OF PARKING IN DORA STREET**

The Southlake Business Chamber and Community Alliance has raised concerns over aspects of work associated with the Morisset Bus Interchange and car park currently under construction.

Project plans confirm the loss of an estimated 13 parking spaces on the eastern side of Dora Street south of Morisset Station, with this space to become a marked cycleway extending to the next intersection at Doyalson Street.

The greatest need for dedicated cycle routes in the area is to provide connections to the railway station from the north and west, and there appears to be little benefit by continuing the cycle lane an extra block to the south. This short extension would not provide useful cycle access to shops in Morisset and does not offer any viable prospect of connection to Morisset's residential or recreation areas, all of which are located to the west. The benefit now or in future to cyclists is arguable and certainly lower than the benefit of the 13 car spaces to local business.

Apart from sacrifice of these parking spaces, I am also deeply concerned at the lack of consultation with the local business community because of the increasing disadvantage of existing small businesses against major new shopping developments. In my opinion it would be much more satisfactory if there was broader communication which involved stakeholders and myself as an elected representative.

Minister, while I frequently hear criticism of the RTA for the manner in which it engages - or more to the point, does not engage - with the local community, I can only say that these generalisations resonate strongly in my electorate and thence to my office. This decision is just one of the latest examples. The lack of communication and responsiveness from the Regional Office reeks of arrogance or disdain for the views of local communities.

My request to you is twofold. Firstly, as a matter of urgency, I request that you intervene to suspend the road-marking project so the effects of losing the parking spaces can be considered. Secondly, it would be of benefit to the electorate if the RTA at a regional level, was more open to dialogue with my electorate office and the broader community.

I request your urgent intervention on the imminent loss of the vital parking spaces and look forward to your reply quoting reference dcs.mr10/90.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Piper', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Greg Piper, MP  
**Member For Lake Macquarie**

- c Southlakes Business Chamber and Community Alliance.  
LMCC Traffic Facilities Committee