



**Brighton
Council**

Media Release

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Communities least-well served by public transport Ignored again

Brighton Mayor, Leigh Gray has expressed disappointment and frustration that the release today of the Draft River Derwent Ferry Service Masterplan ignores the needs of communities outside the inner-metro area of Hobart.

“The issue of isolation, lack of public transport options and transport poverty is far greater for our communities than it is for any of the communities to be served by the new ferry service sites identified in the Plan.” Mayor Gray said.

The Plan considered sites at the rapidly growing suburbs of Old Beach and Bridgewater but dismissed them.

“With the apparent lack of ambition to extend the proposed Northern Suburbs bus corridor to the new Bridgewater Bridge (even though it will have a bus interchange immediately on the Bridgewater side) many in our community are starting to wonder if the government cares about the needs of those not located in inner Hobart.”

“Our society is spending close to \$1 billion on a new bridge, yet we appear to be missing the opportunity to use it as the catalyst to connect up bus and ferry options to provide a better future for our people. It seems even more short-sighted when you consider we have such high residential growth and the government are supporting the construction of hundreds of affordable and public homes here, including through Homes Tasmania.”

Brighton Council has long been an advocate for an integrated transport solution for all of Greater Hobart. Ferry transport must be part of the solution especially to tackle challenges of transport poverty and access to opportunity.

“The proposed sites serve predominantly affluent waterfront suburbs, with reasonable existing transport options. Decent public transport would actually make a huge difference to our rapidly growing community, who suffer from greater lack of investment and don’t enjoy the same wealth and opportunity.” Mayor Gray said.

Kircha Kaechele who is developing 24 Carrot and Materials Institute initiatives in Brighton agrees and said, “Our river is a great connector, it is time to use it for the benefit of all communities”.



“We are disappointed not to be more actively engaged by Government in the process of developing this master plan nor in matters of transport more generally for the region, and will be providing strong feedback to advocate for the inclusion of potential locations that serve our community.”

Ends

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