

3 May 2022

Allegra Spender, Candidate for Wentworth (NSW)

Independent

RESPONSE:

“Allegra... is very supportive of initiatives to encourage non-polluting forms of transport as well as physical exercise to promote physical and mental wellbeing.

Ultimately, decisions about improved cycle infrastructure on Sydney's roads lie with Local and State governments. Allegra has already met with both Waverley and Woollahra mayors and local councillors Harriet Price and Mark Silcocks to gather their views across a range of issues including cycleways. And she is committed to working collaboratively across all government sectors, in conjunction with the Wentworth community, to create the best outcomes for residents and is very supportive of improved cycle infrastructure in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs.

Improving conditions for cyclists and encouraging more people to use bikes (including electric bikes) instead of cars would clearly be good for our local environment and for the climate. Allegra's key policy priorities include climate action and environmental protections. Allegra will also be campaigning on the need for more initiatives to promote preventative action to support the health of Australians. With regards to health policy, Allegra supports initiatives which will increase our focus on preventative measures to protect our physical and mental health, including through physical exercise. It is clear that improving conditions for cyclists, and encouraging more people to use bikes instead of cars could also help to maintain strong physical and mental health and reduce the risk of chronic illness.

As Wentworth's Federal representative, Allegra would work to develop and maintain strong lines of communication between State and Federal members (of all parties) for the local area to promote the best solutions for residents. Planning for new cycle infrastructure should take future climate scenarios and extreme weather events into account. Public consultation at the design stage would clearly be important. As a general point, Allegra is keen to encourage more public engagement on local issues to ensure that voters' voices are heard by decision makers.”