## Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a resident of Pitt Town and write to highlight the grossly inadequate state of our current flood evacuation route which rapidly deteriorates in severe weather events. Potholes and damage from a combination of increased vehicles, large service vehicles and rainwater contribute to a dangerous situation for residents as the flood evacuation route is too narrow and poorly maintained.

The recent flood events in February 2020, March 2021 and March 2022 have highlighted the need for the Pitt Town flood evacuation route to be upgraded and maintained at a much higher standard than at present. All local access roads in and out of Pitt Town can be cut by either local run-off, rising river flood water, or a combination of both, leaving the flood evacuation route as the only access in and out of Pitt Town. In these circumstances, the volume of traffic along that route increases several fold, including large vehicles for services such as food and fuel delivery, wastewater cartage, garbage and other services, and emergency vehicles.

In addition, the residents are forced to use the same route twice daily to travel to and from their place of work, as well as parents who are transporting their children to and from school and other activities. Whilst the principle purpose of a flood evacuation route may be for the traffic to travel one way, ie leave Pitt Town, in reality this is not the case. The roads along the route, especially through Scheyville National Park are narrow and not equipped to take two way traffic which in effect is what occurs.

The Pitt Town residential development was undertaken as a Part 3A State Government Approval (by the then Minister Frank Sartor). As such, the State Government has both a duty of care and moral obligation to provide our community with safe and functional road access during flood events.

The flood evacuation route from Bathurst Street via Bootles Lane, Redfern Place, Mitchell Road, Pitt Town Dural Road, Airstrip Road (the gated section of Old Stock Route Road) and Old Pitt Town Road to Nelson Road and on to Windsor Road, a distance of 15.3km, must be upgraded to a minimum width of 8.0m (2 x 3.0m traffic lanes plus 2 x 1.0m shoulders) plus centre line marking and shoulder lines.

The Pitt Town Progress Association (PTPA) has been championing this unacceptable situation for the residents over many years, submitting information and recommendations to several members of the State Government, including our previous State member and present Premier, Dominic Perrottet, our current State member, Robyn Preston and Natalie Wood, Minister for Metropolitan Roads. Disappointingly, only polite responses acknowledging the PTPA's communication have been received. To date, no upgrades have been commenced and no assurances have been received that anything will be done to upgrade the Pitt Town flood evacuation route.

As a resident of Pitt Town I find this lack of action from the State Government unacceptable and will be voicing my disappointment at the ballot box in March 2023.

Thanking you,

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