

# Valley Times

COOKS RIVER

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Pilgrims  
prepare  
Page 7



Simple Plan for  
best night out  
Entertainment



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full of charm  
Domain



## No more cuts

### Fears grow on Greenway bid

By KIRSTY JAGGER

THE State Government is remaining tightlipped about its plans for the Cooks River to Iron Cove GreenWay, amid rumours the project could be a victim of budget cuts.

GreenWay Steering Committee chairperson Linda Eisler raised the alarm last week, calling on the NSW Government to "unequivocally" deny the rumours.

The GreenWay - an environmentally sustainable transport corridor, including a shared pathway for cyclists and pedestrians plus bushcare sites for native plants and animals - was announced in July 2010 by then NSW Premier Kristina Kennelly as part of the \$150 million Inner West Light Rail Extension.

"It would be such a waste of resources already spent if the Government cut funding just to save a few dollars," Ms Eisler said.

"Any savings by not building the GreenWay will be negligible and a large amount of goodwill will be lost."

Questions on the matter put to NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell by the *Torch* were redirected to Transport Minister Gladys Berejiklian.

"I'm not getting into budget speculation, but the community of the Inner West should be assured we are serious about extending light rail and encouraging active transport through proper planning and integration," Ms Berejiklian said.

On September 6, NSW Treasurer Mike Baird will hand down the Budget.

"The GreenWay and the Inner West Light Rail are the future of transport around Sydney," Ms Eisler said.

"The Government could be opening a fantastic greenway and light rail extension in 18 months if it sticks with this project - it would be nice to see one public transport project completed."

Continued page 2



GreenWay Steering Committee chairperson, Linda Eisler said a shadow of doubt had been cast over the future of the Cooks River to Iron Cove GreenWay.  
Photo by RADMI CECYHALA.

## GreenWay chop worry

From page 1

"It has been 15 years in the making, it is ready to go, just give it the go ahead."

Merrickville Council has vowed it will actively campaign and help coordinate opposition against any proposal to cut the GreenWay.

"Our aim will be to restore funding and maintain the program set by the Labor Government," Cr Emanuel Tsardoulis said.

Cr Mary O'Sullivan said the council would now call on NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell, Treasurer Mike Baird and Transport Minister Gladys Berejiklian to confirm the GreenWay project would go ahead with funding allocated for its full completion.

The council will also write on the matter to members of parliament and relevant shadow ministers.

Included in the rescue resolution was a call for the cycleway to be called the Cadel Evans GreenWay.