



**United Retail Federation**

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## MEDIA RELEASE

### Concerns with Sydney Bikeways Construction to Be Canvassed in Poll

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Tuesday, 21 September 2010

The **United Retail Federation**, a peak national industry body representing retailers and small businesses for over 120 years, has announced it will be commissioning an extensive series of research to canvass the view of retailers and businesses affected by the construction and implementation of the Sydney Cycleways project.

**Scott Driscoll**, National President of the **United Retail Federation**, said that there had been and continued to be serious concerns surrounding the consultation process of Lord Mayor Clover Moore's 'vision' and he would be seeking to address these concerns by commissioning the research.

"We will be commissioning ongoing research to gauge the experience of businesses that have been affected by this project and we will be also conducting research on the sentiment of businesses that will be affected in future projects", Mr Driscoll said.

"We have many concerns about the inadequate consultation phase that preceded this project and we have very serious concerns about the advice Council has received and is continuing to receive on many areas of what has been a disastrous process.

"For example, there has been a disturbing disregard for engaging with any sector of the community outside of the Council or particular cycling advocacy groups. There is no specific voice representing retailers or the small business community yet the impact on this sector is a key criteria of Council's prioritisation of the Cycleways projects.

"I can guarantee Lord Mayor Clover Moore that my particular brand of megaphone diplomacy will be amplified until reason is implemented into this process.

"I would call on the Lord Mayor to immediately review the process including reviewing the Advisory Committee that is currently lacking in balance and certainly lacking any representation for the very retailers and small businesses being affected by the project," Mr Driscoll said.

**For further comment call Scott Driscoll on 0413 831 045.**