



United Retail Federation

Serving Members Australia Wide™

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Lord Mayor Clover Moore's Bureaucratic Speak No Substitute for Consultation

Driscoll – "Lord Mayor Clover Moore's Kumbaya Consultation Group lacks any representation for the community affected"

Wednesday, 22 September 2010

The **United Retail Federation**, a peak national industry body representing retailers and small businesses for over 120 years, has responded to Lord Mayor Clover Moore's contemptuous Cycleways "consultation" process by labeling the Advisory Committee set up by Sydney City Council "devoid of broad local business input".

Scott Driscoll, National President of the **United Retail Federation**, said that the farcical consultation process of Lord Mayor Clover Moore's Cycleways 'Vision Quest' had escalated to serious concerns about the scope of the Advisory Committee and labelled it "a Kumbaya group that is lacking in any semblance of broad small business representation".

"The roll out of the Cycleways project has been a nightmare, the consultation process was more spin than substance and the ongoing advisory committee is nothing but a Kumbaya group of people furiously agreeing with each other because there is not the diversity of background and opinions needed," Mr Driscoll said.

"We have serious concerns about the roll out and implementation in addition to the blinkered advice that Council is relying on. That is why I am commissioning our own research to gauge the actual experience of retailers and small businesses that have been affected and will be affected in the next phase of this project.

"I will be unapologetically relentless in my pursuit of injecting reason into this project as it has already cost many businesses their livelihoods and many more are telling us they are experiencing a 40 to 50 per cent drop in business as a result of this farcical process, with many too afraid to speak out given the obvious lack of regard they are already being shown by Clover Moore Inc," Mr Driscoll said.

For further comment call Scott Driscoll on 0413 831 045.