



## Blue Mountains Conservation Society Inc

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### Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow

2 April 2026

### Sublime Point Active Transport Plan

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Blue Mountains City Council

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Blue Mountains Conservation Society (the Society) is a long-established, community-based volunteer organisation with over 900 members. Our mission is to help protect, conserve and advocate for the natural environment of the Greater Blue Mountains.

The Society thanks Council for inviting us to be represented at a stakeholder meeting on 19 March 2026 regarding active transport installations broadly within the corridors of Sublime Point Road, Watkins Road, Willoughby Road and Carleton Road, Leura.

The Society supports those elements of Council's implementation plans which:

1. keep facilities within the currently disturbed areas of the road reservations,
2. reduce motor traffic speed,
3. avoid disturbance to the threatened *Persoonia* species which have been observed adjacent to Sublime Point Road,
4. avoid disturbance to points where wildlife has been observed crossing roads
5. minimise interference with bushland on the Crown Reserve partly bounded by Sublime Point Road and Willoughby Road which is already being cared for by the Sublime Point Bushcare group.

#### **General context of the sites**

Sublime Point and the high plateau with some residences on it, to its north, form part of the Southern Scenic Escarpment. This area has been under review by Council because it is an ecologically diverse part of the Local Government Area where a high level of interaction occurs between humans and the World Heritage classified Blue

Mountains National Park (BMNP). The BMNP abuts the escarpment over virtually all of its length.

There have been numerous observations of native fauna interacting with both natural bushland and private land areas on the Sublime Point plateau. It is vital to avoid removing native flora from bushland reserves, road reservations or private land if the health of native fauna species is to be safeguarded. The Sublime Point plateau is a type of landform particularly attractive to migratory honeyeater species often observed on the Southern Scenic Escarpment. Those present at the stakeholders meeting also mentioned frequent lyrebird observations on Sublime Point Road.

This sandstone plateau environment is extremely sensitive to geochemical changes from concrete and other building materials, this should be considered for materials used for this development. This also includes changes in storm water runoff.

### **Threatened *Persoonia* species**

The Society thanks Council representatives for drawing to the stakeholders meeting's attention the identification of threatened *Persoonia* species (*Persoonia acerosa*) in the bushland reserve opposite the Crown Reserve south of Willoughby Road. It is unfortunate that some thought the specimens might be successfully translocated, as translocation of native species from their original sites is of limited success. Options that leave these *Persoonia* specimens entirely undisturbed are to be preferred.

### **Threatened species *Pherosphaera fitzgeraldii*, newly discovered population**

There has been a new population of *Pherosphaera fitzgeraldii* found within the catchment area of this development site. National Parks and Wildlife Service Save our Species staff should be consulted about managing risk to this population. This species is sensitive to activity and pollution in its upstream catchment.

### **Crown Reserve at Sublime Point Road and Willoughby Road**

Volunteer bush carers have been involved in care of this reserve over many years. Our Society welcomes those aspects of Council's plans that keep all pedestrian and other traffic using the Grand Clifftop Walk route or accessing Sublime Point within the existing developed road reservations of Sublime Point Road, Willoughby Road and Carleton Road. We favour preserving only existing tracks that allow access for bush carers or others wishing to make botanical observations within the Crown Reserve.

### **Speed of motor traffic and wildlife crossings**

We welcome Council's consideration of "slow point" or "chicane" traffic treatments which would encourage active transport and require opposing directions of motor traffic to give way to each other at the most speed sensitive points along Sublime Point Road. Designs that do most to protect wildlife at identified wildlife crossing points are to be preferred.

Any further modifications to Council's proposals that could further reduce the total number of trees and shrubs compromised by the active transport installations should also be favoured.

Thank you for your consideration of the Society's submission.

Yours sincerely,



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Mrs Annette Cam  
President  
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