Wagga Wilderness Walkers Inc PO Box 728 Wagga Wagga NSW 2650

Lisa Glastonbury Chairperson Wagga Rail Trail Inc PO Box 2789 Wagga Wagga NSW 2650

30 June 2016

## Dear Lisa

On behalf of Wagga Wilderness Walkers, I write to congratulate you and your committee for your initiative in promoting the development of an off-road multipurpose trail between Wagga Wagga and Ladysmith.

Wagga Wilderness Walkers (WWW) was formed in 1986 to promote and facilitate bushwalking in the local community. Over the years members have undertaken walks in various parts of Australia and overseas, but it would be true to say that most of our activities are centred on Wagga Wagga and its immediate surroundings, in particular the Wiradjuri Track. The establishment of the Wagga Rail Trail is a positive step in encouraging outdoor activities in safe and pleasant surroundings, and the trail will be regularly used by our members.

WWW is in favour of the establishment of multipurpose trails on disused railway easements, both for the recreational opportunities they afford and for the economic boost to the area in terms of increased tourist potential; the rail trails in Victoria are shining examples of the benefits that follow such projects. The specific route between Ladysmith and Wagga Wagga is an obvious choice, as it joins two population hubs (Wagga Wagga and Forest Hill) thereby encouraging bicycle commuting on a dedicated traffic-free route, as well as including the picturesque and historic village of Ladysmith.

Wagga Wilderness Walkers is delighted to lend support to this project and we look forward to seeing the trail in operation.

Helen Wood

Walks Organiser

Wagga Wilderness Walkers

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