

24 June 2020

The Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP  
280 Willoughby Road  
Naremburn NSW 2065

Dear Ms Berejiklian,

### **Inaccessible eastside access to Artarmon train station**

The Artarmon Progress Association, on behalf of the Artarmon community, is writing to request Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) compliant access between Wilkes Avenue and the Artarmon train station.

The Artarmon Progress Association has raised this issue with Willoughby City Council. The Council has stated it is unable to address the problem given the NSW Government owns the land between Wilkes Avenue and the station.

Currently, people with disabilities and impaired mobility living on the Wilkes Avenue side of Artarmon have two options to access the train station and Hampden Road shops:

- Use the non-DDA compliant ramp that runs between Wilkes Avenue and the station. Parts of the ramp exceed 10 degrees (steeper than 1:6). DDA compliance requires a gradient no steeper than 7 degrees (1:8); or
- Use Valetta Lane and Brand Street, an uneven footpath that is 450 metres long.

Both of these options are unreasonable and unsafe.

For many years the Artarmon community has expressed a strong need for station lift access via both Hampden Rd and Wilkes Avenue. In 2015 the NSW Government installed two new lifts that provide access from Hampden Road to the Artarmon station platform. Many in the community remain bitterly disappointed that lift access to the station was not also provided via Wilkes Avenue at the same time.

We are aware that the NSW Government has set a target to increase the roles held by people with disability in the public sector from an estimated 2.7 per cent to 5.6 per cent by 2025. For many people, especially those managing a disability, public transport is essential for accessing employment.

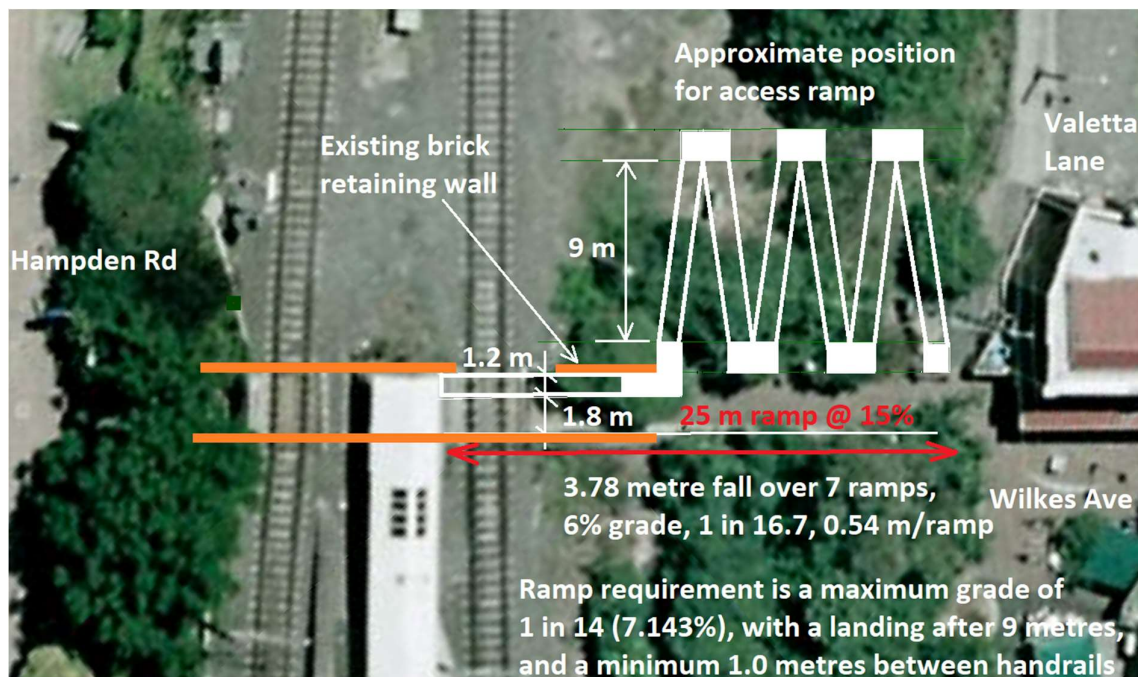
The Artarmon Progress Association is calling on the NSW Government to provide DDA compliant access to Artarmon train station via Wilkes Avenue by either installing a lift or creating a DDA compliant walkway. An illustration of a DDA compliant walkway is provided.

We look forward to hearing from you on this important issue.

Yours faithfully,

Georgina Roussac  
President  
Artarmon Progress Association

CC: Dr Ben Gauntlet  
Disability Discrimination Commissioner



### Who we are

The Artarmon Progress Association, Inc. (APA) was founded in 1906 as a not-for-profit group and our objectives are to promote the welfare, physical and intellectual advancement of the suburb of Artarmon and the City of Willoughby, to protect the interests of the residents, and to encourage a keener spirit of citizenship and mutual help amongst residents.

Our newsletter, the Artarmon Gazette, is distributed quarterly to over 5,000 homes and businesses in Artarmon. We regularly communicate with residents and act as a conduit between local residents and elected representatives on matters concerning our local community.