



**Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle Users Group –
CBD BUG**

GPO Box 2104, Brisbane 4001

Paul French: 0423 974 825 (m) or paul.french@cbdbug.org.au

Leslie Martin: leslie@cbdbug.org.au

Ian Lister: 3224 8491 (w) or ian.lister@cbdbug.org.au

www.cbdbug.org.au

Ms Julie Spencer
Community Relations Manager
Airport Link
Reply Paid 3548
SOUTH BRISBANE QLD 4011
Sent via email: contactus@tjh.com.au

Dear Ms Spencer

This letter seeks your advice in relation to Airport Link consultative processes the Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle Users Group (CBD BUG) regards as critical for ensuring cycling issues are appropriately incorporated into the project.

The CBD BUG's involvement in this project stems from its role in representing and articulating the interests of the very large number of Brisbane residents who commute or ride bicycles to, from and within the Central Business District. The group has in excess of 300 members and potentially represents several thousands of cyclists with a diverse range of ages, abilities and needs. Facilities and safety for cyclists, and safe, direct cycling routes in and around the CBD are issues of major interest to our members.

As previously advised in a letter dated 22 October 2008 (copy attached) Mr John Lister is the CBD BUG's representative on the Bowen Hills Community Liaison Group (CLG).

Mr Lister advises that at the 28 October 2008 Bowen Hills CLG meeting it was agreed there would be formed "a cycling group representing the whole project area, to deal with cycling matters and in particular connectivity between projects". The minutes of the same meeting also state "JS explained it is the intention of the project to inform cycling groups directly and a cycling strategy should be implemented in coming weeks". Bowen Hills CLG meeting minutes of 25 November 2008 indicate Mr Greg Bourke (Thiess John Holland) stated "preparation of the cycling strategy has commenced and more detail will be available in January".

However, to our knowledge no cycling reference group has been formed, nor has the CBD BUG been provided with the Airport Link cycling strategy. Additionally, and an issue of the greatest concern to the CBD BUG, is that on 27 January 2009 pathway changes affecting the Bowen Hills area were implemented in the absence of consultation with cycling groups.

The gap between the consultation promised by the Airport Link project team on cycling issues and that actually occurring is a matter of major disappointment for the CBD BUG. This is because it has been our experience from other significant infrastructure projects that unless cycling issues are placed high up on a project's agenda from the outset they are relegated to afterthoughts, which invariably results in sub-standard outcomes in terms of both the detours implemented during construction and the permanent cycle ways.

Accordingly, the following information is now sought.

1. When will Airport Link establish the cycling reference group as agreed at the 28 October 2008 Bowen Hills CLG meeting?
2. When will Airport Link's draft cycling strategy be available for feedback by the CBD BUG and other interested cycling organisations?

It is also requested that to ensure no undue impacts on cyclists, there are no further pathway / cycleway detours without first consulting interested cycling organisations.

Finally, in Airport Link literature there has been promised a "Bowen to Bay Urban Parkway – an exciting new connection for Brisbane's north providing a continuous path with cycle and pedestrian routes from Bowen Hills to Moreton Bay". The CBD BUG is very interested in this new route and would appreciate your provision of further information about the promised route.

I look forward to your response on these issues.

Yours faithfully



Paul French
Co-convenor
Central Business District Bicycle Users Group
2 February 2009

cc: Bicycle Queensland
RBWH BUG
Airport BUG
Grace Grace MP Member for Brisbane Central
Tim Nicholls MP Member for Clayfield