



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

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The Honourable John Mickel MP
Minister for Transport
GPO Box 46
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Minister

Detour of City Reach boardwalk – negative impacts on cyclists and pedestrians

This letter seeks your advice on the State Government's plans for the City Reach boardwalk.

The reason for this letter is that since the temporary fencing was installed along the boardwalk during late 2007, in order to restrict the number of people who could occupy this walkway at any one time, its diminished state has been a hazard and source of frustration for CBD cyclists and pedestrians alike.

The boardwalk's amenity was even further reduced in August 2008 with the introduction of a detour along its length between Macrossan Street and Boundary Street, meaning boardwalk users have since had a choice of either:

1. negotiating a combination of 48 stairs and a narrow footpath running for some distance beside a driveway being used by articulated heavy trucks to access a building site; or
2. skirting around the other side this building site, requiring cyclists and pedestrians to share an already narrow footpath that has been further narrowed because of the gantry and temporary fencing erected by the builders.

The inadequacy of this detour means this route currently presents a significant barrier to all users and particularly children and older people.

Compounding the inconvenience and annoyance for CBD cyclists has been the lack of communication from the Port of Brisbane Corporation (PBC) on its plans for this critical piece of cycling infrastructure, which is the principal off-road cycling route linking the CBD with New Farm and Fortitude Valley. Despite the CBD BUG contacting the PBC to advise of its interest in the progress of reinstating the City Reach boardwalk, the only communications from government on any of these issues have been limited to media releases.

The CBD BUG views the PBC's inaction over a prolonged period on addressing the boardwalk's problems and the lack of consultation on same as inconsistent with the Government's intention to encourage increased use of active and sustainable transport modes. Accordingly we would now appreciate your advice on the following issues.

- The timeframe for implementing a safe and appropriate detour while testing and correction works are completed.
- The timeframe for completing the testing regime.
- The longer term plans for the boardwalk, including the timeframes for correcting any defects identified via the testing process and ownership transfer.
- The plans for an appropriate communication process with the community.

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely



Paul French
Co-Convenor
Brisbane CBD BUG

24 February 2009