

Hon Rachel Nolan MP

Member for Ipswich

Our ref: MC46515



Office of the Minister for Transport

2 4 FEB 2010

Mr Paul French Co-convenor Central Business District Bicycle Users Group GPO Box 2104 Brisbane Old 4001

Dear Mr French

Thank you for your letter of 15 December 2009 to the Honourable Rachel Nolan MP, Minister for Transport, about connecting the Royal Brisbane Women's Hospital (RBWH) Cycle Centre to existing cycling infrastructure. The Minister has asked that I respond on her behalf and I apologise for the delay of my response.

The RBWH Cycle Centre was constructed due to an opportunity that presented itself late in the development of the Northern Busway project. The Department of Transport and Main Roads saw the economic advantages of delivering this iconic bikeway project as part of the Northern Busway development and making use of the land offered by Queensland Health, which had identified a high level of demand for an end of trip facility in the RBWH precinct.

While funding was not available to deliver the entire network surrounding the cycle centre at the same time, the department recognised that additional cycle infrastructure was needed as a matter of priority.

As previously mentioned in a letter to you of 11 November 2009, on-road cycle facilities are planned along Butterfield Street at Herston and at the Bowen Bridge Road/O'Connell Terrace intersection to assist cyclists entering and leaving the RBWH Cycle Centre. These will be completed by the end of this financial year.

The development scheme for the Bowen Hills Urban Development Area (released by the ULDA in July 2009) identifies cycle infrastructure that will improve access to the RBWH Cycle Centre (ref. page 17, Bowen Hills Development Scheme) including:

- cycle lanes on O'Connell Terrace, Brookes Street, Hamilton Place, Bowen Bridge Road and Gregory Terrace (these are consistent with proposed facilities shown in the South East Queensland Principal Cycle Network Plan)
- three active transport corridors through the 'Ekka' precinct from Gregory Terrace to O'Connell Terrace, from Bowen Park to O'Connell Terrace and from O'Connell Terrace to Bowen Bridge Road.

An 'in principle' agreement with the Royal National Association (RNA) has been reached regarding use of RNA land for a section of the cycleway that links the Victoria Park Bikeway and O'Connell Terrace and uses an existing underpass of Bowen Bridge Road. The above facilities are subject to further investigation and funding approval prior to implementation.

Works associated with the Airport Link project will deliver an off-road pedestrian and cycle facility between Addison and Campbell Streets including a crossing of Enoggera Creek allowing access to the RBWH Cycle Centre from the north-east. This will be constructed by 2012.

Bike lanterns have not been requested at the intersections you suggested on Bowen Bridge Road because bike lanterns are traditionally used only on intersections that provide a through connection either within or to a bikeway network. However, the cycle lanes planned for O'Connell Terrace will facilitate an on-road option for cyclists turning right to enter the RBWH Cycle Centre.

The department has also been working with the council to improve cycling facilities on Butterfield Street to improve connections from the Enoggera Creek bikeway and RBWH Cycle Centre. An agreement was established to provide on-road cycling facilities in this road reserve where space is restricted.

The majority of the roads surrounding the RBWH Cycle Centre are within the jurisdiction of the council and for that reason we encourage the council to incorporate additional cycling facilities on any future road upgrades.

The Noble Street Bridge is an example of a project that we have supported through the provision of funding to council to progressively establish better connections for cyclists travelling to the Brisbane CBD from the northern suburbs.

If you require further information, please call Ms Rhonda Clelland, Manager (Cycle Network Program) of the Smart Travel Centre—Queensland Branch on 3145 1834. Ms Clelland will be pleased to assist.

·Yours sincerely

Daniel Cheverton Principal Advisor