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

Dear Mr French

Thank you for your letter of 14 September 2010 requesting improvements to cycle access at various locations in the Central Business District (CBD). Please accept my apology for the delay in responding.

I would like to thank Central Business District Bicycle Users Group (CBD BUG) for their efforts in assisting Council to achieve the best possible outcomes for Brisbane's cyclists. I understand that CBD BUG and our Active Transport section regularly meet to discuss how we can make Brisbane more cycle-friendly. I also appreciate the support for CityCycle and thank you for the positive media release.

In this year's budget, Council has introduced a program called 'Creating a Cycle Friendly CBD' to specifically target cycle improvements in the CBD and inner city area. Under this program, Council is identifying improvements to key cycle routes and intersections in the CBD.

I understand you have suggested changes to the intersection of Albert, Ann and Roma Streets, and also the intersection of Albert and Turbot Streets, to facilitate safer access for cyclists. I also note your comments about cyclists being able to ride through King George Square.

As I announced on 24 September 2010, Council has now provided a shared pedestrian and cycling area in King George Square, allowing cyclists to ride through the square. This change has provided a safer movement for cyclists between Ann, Albert and Adelaide Streets. By providing controlled access through the area, Council is providing improved flexibility for all users of King George Square, including cyclists.

I understand Mr Jonathan Giles, Project Officer Active Transport, Transport Planning and Strategy (TPS) branch spoke with you on 24 September 2010 about your suggestions. TPS has investigated the concerns you have raised in your letter and I was pleased to hear that you were happy with the information Mr Giles provided to you.

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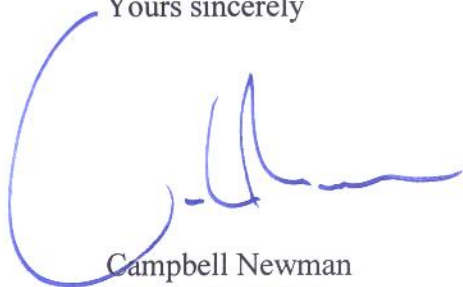
I acknowledge your suggestion for a direct cycle crossing from Albert Street South across Turbot Street. This is currently not possible because all southbound traffic, including bicycles, must turn left into Turbot Street.

The section of Albert Street, between Turbot Street and Ann Street, is a shared zone with one-way traffic in a northerly direction. Council is investigating options to improve cyclist movements through this signalised intersection to connect with King George Square. Any improvements will consider all pedestrian and traffic movements at the intersection. I have asked that CBD BUG are consulted before any improvements are made.

As Mr Giles discussed, Council has prepared preliminary designs for a separated cycle crossing of Ann Street at King George Square. Council is currently reviewing the potential impacts on pedestrian safety at the crossing. Our Active Transport section will provide CBD BUG with regular updates about this process at the next meeting.

Thank you for your feedback about these important issues and for your active interest in making Brisbane a more cycle-friendly city.

Yours sincerely



Campbell Newman
LORD MAYOR

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