

Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group CBD BUG GPO Boy 2104 Brisbano 4001

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Cr Shayne Sutton
Councillor for Morningside Ward
Ground floor
63 Oxford Street
BULIMBA QLD 4171

Dear Councillor Sutton

I refer to your letter dated 20 June 2012 regarding conflicts between motorists and cyclists riding along the Wynnum Road footpath between Hawthorne Road, Hawthorne and the Canning Bridge in Norman Park.

The CBD BUG has always encouraged safe and responsible behaviour by all road users and appreciates the desire of Wynnum Road residents to avoid a crash with cyclists riding along the Wynnum Road footpath. To assist in reducing the potential for crashes along this section of Wynnum Road the CBD BUG will use its communication channels to advise cyclists of residents' concerns, and the need to adopt safe cycling practices.

However, it should be pointed out the Queensland Road Rules (QRR) are unambiguous in requiring a motorist entering or departing land adjacent to a road or road-related area (footpath) to give way to footpath users. Sections 74 and 75 are the relevant provisions in this regard. Because of the widespread lack of knowledge of these provision motorists exiting or entering properties pose a common threat to cyclist and pedestrians. On this basis it would be appreciated if you could ensure residents along this section of Wynnum Road are informed of their obligations under the QRR.

With respect to the issue of motorists obstructing cyclists using the footpath so they cannot pass and are obliged to wait until the motorist has entered the road, this appears to be needlessly causing delays to cyclists. The footpath along the majority of this section of Wynnum Road is seen as providing motorists with sufficient width to observe the on-road traffic without entirely blocking the footpath - thereby allowing cyclists to pass while the motorists wait to enter the road.

Therefore, it is also requested you inform Wynnum Road that if residents find themselves blocking footpath users, instead of continuing to block the footpath they should drive their vehicles at least part way back into their properties to allow footpath users to pass.

It is worth pointing out the underlying reason for this problem is that cyclists are forced to use this footpath because of dangerous on-road conditions created by the large volumes of high speed motor vehicles travelling along Wynnum Road.

This situation highlights the pressing need for Council to accelerate its investment in delivering additional cyclist infrastructure. To this end the CBD BUG is aware of \$250,000 being allocated in the 2012-13 BCC budget for the investigation and preliminary design of a cyclist route between the CBD and Wynnum. However, the CBD views the real solution to much of the current situation as being the construction of the long talked about cyclist and pedestrian green bridge spanning the Brisbane River between New Farm / Teneriffe and Bulimba / Hawthorne.

The CBD BUG has been a strong advocate for this essential river crossing and would welcome your public support for this missing link.

Yours sincerely

Paul French Co-convenor

Brisbane CBD BUG

24July 2012

Cc: EaST BUG