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21 November 2014

Mr Donald Campbell
CBD BUG Co-convenor
GPO Box 2104
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Mr Campbell

Thank you for your email of 27 October 2014 about cycling issues in Gray Street, New Farm.

I appreciate your concerns about the consultation that occurred in relation to proposed traffic calming for Gray Street and asked Mr David Clarke from Council's Transport Planning and Strategy branch (TPS) for more information on this matter.

Firstly, may I assure you that Council appreciates the role your organisation plays in promoting and encouraging safe cycling in Brisbane and values your ongoing advocacy on behalf of Brisbane's cycling community.

While Council aims to ensure the interests of all stakeholders are considered in relation to any proposed projects, you would appreciate that Council also needs to carefully consider the needs of local residents and to take action in the interests of safety.

Mr Clarke has advised that the proposed traffic calming measures for Gray Street are supported by the majority of local residents. These measures are designed to discourage motorists from using the street as a short cut and to slow down vehicle speeds along Gray Street, and on the turn-in from nearby Merthyr Road.

I am sorry that Council's newsletter about this proposed project did not meet your expectations. Newsletters of this nature are specifically designed to inform local residents of the potential impacts of traffic calming devices, such as traffic noise and inconvenience.

Council considers all local feedback, regardless of whether a resident is an owner or a tenant and I appreciate that the wording in this newsletter could have been clearer. Therefore, I have asked TPS to revise future newsletters to ensure there is no ambiguity and to reinforce the message to all residents that their views are important. While some residents may be less interested than others about changes in their street, Council remains committed to consulting with the local community to ensure their feedback is taken into account.

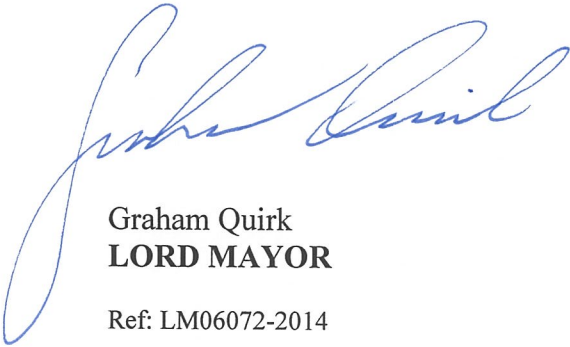
You may be interested to know that, in this instance, a high percentage of survey responses were received from residents in rented premises. This would indicate that both property owners and tenants took the opportunity to have their say.

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Ultimately, our aim is to ensure the safety of all road users and I am pleased to hear that CBD BUG supports traffic calming measures in Gray Street. The options under consideration will go a long way towards addressing your concerns about the speed of vehicles on Gray Street and the layout of the intersection with Merthyr Road.

I trust this information is helpful. Should you wish to discuss this matter in more detail, please contact Mr Clarke on 3403 8888.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Graham Quirk', with a large, stylized flourish on the left side.

Graham Quirk
LORD MAYOR

Ref: LM06072-2014