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Mr Paul French  
Co-convenor  
Brisbane CBD Bicycle User Group  
GPO Box 2104  
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Dear Mr French

Thank you for your emails of 31 May 2015 about the use of Bicycle Awareness Zones (BAZ) around Brisbane, and the Toowong to Indooroopilly bikeway corridor project.

I certainly appreciate you taking the time to raise these concerns on behalf of your members. As you will be aware, I am passionate about improving the safety for cyclists across the city. My commitment to spending \$120 million on bikeways is well on track to being achieved and the networks are now seeing more cycle traffic. In fact the 8% growth per year in cycling is in no small way attributable to the improving network opportunities.

I asked Mr Luke Robertson from Council's Transport Planning and Strategy branch to investigate your concerns about Council's BAZ drawings. As you know, the Queensland Government's Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) released an updated version of the Traffic and Road Use Management (TRUM) Manual in April, which included an update to their standard drawing for BAZ markings. I can confirm that as a result, Council is currently reviewing its own standard drawings, including BSD-5102, to ensure they align with the updated TRUM.

While this review is undertaken, Council has adopted the recently updated guidelines from the TRUM for all new applications of BAZ infrastructure. However, a number of BAZ markings installed prior to April use Council's older BAZ drawing. As I am sure you can appreciate, it would be difficult for Council to replace all existing BAZ markings with the revised design from DTMR in the short-term. Instead, Council will gradually replace existing BAZ markings as roads are resurfaced. Any new BAZ markings will be installed in accordance with the recently updated guidelines.

If you would like to discuss Council's use of BAZ markings in more detail, please contact Mr Robertson on 3403 8888.

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I also acknowledge feedback about the design of the Toowong to Indooroopilly commuter bikeway project and asked Ms Sarah Gladstone from Council's City Projects Office to investigate.

The Toowong to Indooroopilly commuter bikeway project aims to provide a safe and direct route between Toowong and Indooroopilly for both recreational and commuter cyclists. Following an extensive corridor study and review of the existing cycle facilities, Council identified safety improvements and upgrades to the cycle facilities.

The project involves installing sections of dedicated bike lanes, BAZ and shared pathway, which will contribute to making Indooroopilly Road a more appealing option, particularly for less-experienced and recreational cyclists.

I acknowledge your concerns about potential car door incidents along Indooroopilly Road, between Heroes Avenue and the Gailey Road Fiveways. Most of this section will be a BAZ, however, dedicated bike lanes will be provided at high speed sections to improve safety and visibility. At these sections, either parking will be removed or there will be allowances for a car door zone.

In addition to the two informal parking spaces noted in your letter, there will be approximately 70 informal spaces removed along narrow sections of Indooroopilly Road. The removal of the informal parking will enhance safety for all road users by providing a wider lane for motorists and a dedicated lane for cyclists.

The project will provide dedicated bicycle lanes at select locations along Indooroopilly Road between Lambert Road and Heroes Road to improve visibility for cyclists on high speed sections of the road. Additional informal parking spaces will be removed from near the Westerham Street and Seven Oaks Street intersections along Indooroopilly Road to improve access through the area and increase visibility for cyclists.

Council recognises that Gailey Road presents safety concerns for cyclists, particularly approaching the Fiveways roundabout. As such, this project promotes Indooroopilly Road as a safer alternative, as it is wider, less steep, has lower traffic volumes and greater visibility.

With regard to your concerns about the width of the bike lane near Seven Oaks Street, please be advised that this lane will be 1.5 metres wide, which meets required safety standards. This area will also have green treatment to increase motorist awareness and visibility of cyclists using the bike lane. As mentioned above, informal parking will also be removed from Indooroopilly Road, near Seven Oaks Street, to accommodate the new bike lane.

Your observations about pedestrians crossing at the Fiveways and associated safety concerns have been noted. However, the scope of works for this project does not include any changes to the current pedestrian facilities.

In relation to the Perrin Park upgrade, pedestrians, cyclists and park users will benefit from the new shared pathway as it provides a safer, wider path and improved amenity, compared to the existing path below the bat colony. The new path alignment will improve personal safety by providing clearer sightlines, enabling path users to see further, and be seen by others. There will also be additional lighting, line marking and signage to enhance safety for cyclists and pedestrians and ensure they are aware of the correct side of the path to use.

The new shared pathway will improve access to existing park facilities, including the playground. Please note that the path alignment will be located more than ten metres from the playground boundary and is compliant with safety guidelines.

I acknowledge your comments about community consultation on this project. The upgrades were developed following an extensive corridor study, which included feasibility investigations, concept design and community consultation.

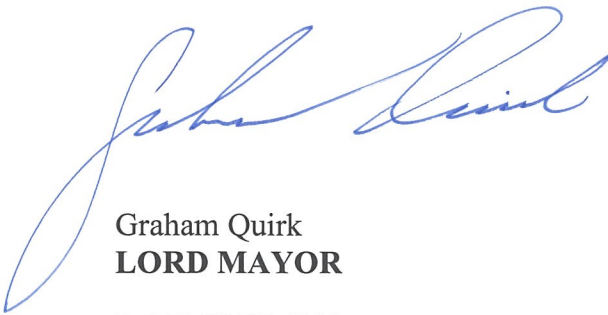
As you may know, a two-stage community consultation process was undertaken in July and August 2013. The first stage involved engaging with cycling groups, bike retailers and the broader community to better understand cycling route options between Toowong and Indooroopilly. The second stage involved gathering feedback on the preferred alignments, and included two public information sessions. The feedback received together with the investigation along the corridor guided the design process for the project.

I trust the above information is of assistance. If you have any further questions, or would to discuss the Toowong to Indooroopilly commuter bikeway project, please contact the project team by email at [bikewayprojects@brisbane.qld.gov.au](mailto:bikewayprojects@brisbane.qld.gov.au) or by phone on 1800 010 705 during work hours.

Once again, I appreciate your comments on improving facilities for cyclists in Brisbane and encourage you to continue to contact Council in the future with any suggestions.

Thank you for contacting me.

Yours sincerely



Graham Quirk  
**LORD MAYOR**

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