



Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group

CBD BUG

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The Director
North Brisbane Bikeway project team
Department of Transport and Main Roads
PO Box 70
SPRING HILL QLD 4004

Dear Sir or Madam

The purpose of this letter is to provide feedback to the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) about the proposed development of stages 2 (Somerset Street to Mawarra Street, Albion), 3B and 3C (Mawarra Street, Albion to Rigby Street, Woolloowin) of the North Brisbane Bikeway (NBB).

The Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group (CBD BUG) is a grass roots group that advocates for better cycling outcomes for people who choose to ride bikes. The CBD BUG seeks changes in transport-related policies of both state and local governments, and seeks the engagement of local cyclists in all transport-related developments in Brisbane and its suburbs. The CBD BUG has in excess of 750 members, and is one of the largest cycling advocacy groups in Queensland, and the largest bicycle user group.

The CBD BUG strongly supports the delivery of stages 2, 3B and 3C of the NBB. Brisbane's northern and eastern suburbs have for many years lagged behind other suburbs, with no safe, direct, and protected cycling route to and from the CBD. Cycling corridors are vitally important for encouraging people to participate in active transport, which provides many benefits to the community including reduced healthcare costs, reduced traffic congestion, and reduced air and noise pollution.

Since 2012, the CBD BUG has carried out monthly bikeway counts which have showed a significant increase in northside cycling to the CBD. This increase occurred when connecting bike paths in Windsor, closed as part of the Clem 7 construction, were re-opened 18 months after the Airport Link construction finished. Completion of stages 2 and 3, along with the soon to be completed stages 1A and 1B, will see further strong growth in people choosing active transport for work and study. The CBD BUG expects that take-up of cycling along this corridor will rival cyclist numbers currently experienced along the Bicentennial Bikeway for the western transport corridor, or the Veloway 1 route that services many of Brisbane's southern suburbs.

The CBD BUG looks forward to working with TMR to enhance the proposed design particularly for stages 3B and 3C. It is important that connectivity between the eastern and western sides of Bridge Street is returned, particularly for pedestrians including school children. This connectivity was lost as a result of recent changes to this transport corridor by the Brisbane City Council. It is also important that the width of the NBB linking Mawarra Street to Bridge Street is international best practice, not just the minimum width allowable, given the potential for collisions between fast downhill users and slower uphill users.

It is also vitally important that the NBB continues to be extended as soon as possible to connect with the existing cycling and walking infrastructure at Kalinga Park, Toombul, Kedron Brook, and suburbs beyond.

If further details are required in relation to this matter please do not hesitate to contact me directly on 0411 145 667 or via email to aaronb@cdbug.org.au.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on this project.

Yours faithfully



Aaron Ball
Northside Coordinator
Brisbane CBD BUG
7 June 2015