

13 December 2016

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Dr Richard Bean Co-convenor Brisbane CBD BUG richardb@cbdbug.org.au

Dear Dr Bean

I write further to my letter to you of 1 November 2016 about the use of banana bars across Brisbane. I apologise for the time taken to respond to your request.

As you know, bicycle deflection rails (banana bars) have previously been installed as an access management treatment on bikeways and shared pathways within Brisbane. Also adopted by surrounding councils in the past, bicycle deflection rails have been used as a treatment to reduce cyclist speed at points such as roads, intersecting paths, tight corners and potential collision areas. They also serve the role of preventing motor vehicle access to paths and parkland.

In 2015, Council announced it would cease the installation of single entry deflection rails. Following this announcement, Council has undertaken further research into access management systems and also reviewed feedback from the Brisbane community about the use of these devices on bikeways and shared paths. I can confirm that Council has now established a removal strategy for all bicycle deflection rails.

Council has a large number of deflection rail assets in place across Brisbane and any removal and replacement program will take time. The priority for the removal will be based on the bikeways with a high usage rate, the deflection rails with a high volume of two-way traffic and deflection rails located on corners, as these create even narrowed pinch points for path users. In addition, these rails will be replaced with an alternative treatment.

I am sorry to read that the deflection rails have not been removed as stated in my previous response to you of 26 April. Mr Luke Robertson from Council's Transport Planning and Strategy branch has investigated and confirmed that Council has commenced the removal of the deflection rails at the sites mentioned in my April response.

In addition, the sites you have listed are on Council's priority list and I anticipate this work will be completed by the end of this year. I am aware the deflection rails at Junction Street, Greenslopes, and Old Cleveland Road and Turbo Drive, Coorparoo, have been removed. If you wish to discuss this matter further, I encourage you to phone Mr Robertson on 3403 8888.

Thank you for bringing to my attention the lip on the kerb at 62 Stevens Street, Yeronga, near the bikeway entrance. I understand Mr Richard Welch, Regional Coordinator Roads and Drainage from Council's Asset Services South region, has contacted you about this matter. I am aware Mr Welch informed you that the lip next to the bikeway cannot be ground down as it serves an important function for water drainage. The entry to the bikeway adjacent has a suitable ramp to allow smooth access onto the bikeway.

The footpath next to the bikeway links with the footpath along Stevens Street and also provides smooth access for pedestrians. I can also inform you that all uneven sections along the bikeway have been ground to eliminate any trip hazards and provide a smooth ride for bicycles. Should you have any further questions about the footpath, please contact Mr Welch on 3403 8888.

Thank you for contacting me. May I take this opportunity to wish you a happy and safe Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Yours sincerely

Graham Quirk LORD MAYOR

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