



Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group

CBD BUG

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The Right Honourable Graham Quirk
Lord Mayor of Brisbane
Office of the Lord Mayor
GPO Box 2287
BRISBANE QLD 4001

The Honourable Stirling Hinchliffe
Minister for Transport and Commonwealth Games
Office of the Minister
GPO Box 2644
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Lord Mayor Graham Quirk & Minister for Transport Stirling Hinchliffe

This letter is to inform you the Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group (CBD BUG) strongly supports the changes called by both the Deputy Lord Mayor Adrian Schinnerer and "Rail Back on Track" for the Victoria Bridge to be converted into a "Green Bridge" catering only for the movement of people on foot, bicycle or in buses.

The Brisbane CBD BUG is a grass roots volunteer organization of more than 800 members, representing the interests of the very large number of residents who ride bicycles to, from and within the city of Brisbane. The Brisbane CBD BUG actively seeks policy decisions at all levels of government that support cycling. In particular CBD BUG seeks improved infrastructure, end-of trip facilities, integration of cycling with other transport modes and a cyclist-friendly regulatory environment.

The CBD BUG is of the firm view any conversion of the bridge should not come at the cost of down-grading the provision of cycling across the bridge. As such the CBD BUG proposes a conversion that will increase the capacity of the Cultural Centre Busway Station at minimal cost and improve the amenity of the bridge for all people walking, riding bikes and travelling on buses.

The CBD BUG is aware of the disproportionate space that motorised traffic occupies on the Victoria Bridge at the moment in occupying over 35% of the bridge deck but carrying less than 7% of persons crossing. The CBD BUG proposes that the Victoria Bridge be converted to a "Green Bridge" by removing the general motor vehicle traffic from the bridge and repurposing the space over to an additional outbound bus lane and a bi-directional protected bikelane (please see figure 1)

The CBD BUG also understands the main capacity constraint is the Cultural Centre Busway Station. For this reason we propose that an additional platform be built (please see figure 2 and 3) in conjunction with protected bikelanes. We see this proposal having the following benefits

- Could be built at minimal cost and with no detrimental effect to the existing station or bus services.

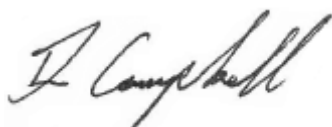
- Existing lift and stair access could be used requiring no additional vertical transport.
- Would provide a minimum 10% increase in capacity to the outbound services if only the 192, 196, 199 and Blue Cityglider were transferred to the new platform 3. Additional capacity gains could be achieved if selected terminating services (e.g. 330,333 etc.) finished their run at the new platform.
- Would simplify vehicular movements at the Grey St, Melbourne St intersection increasing intersection capacity. This would occur due to the removal of right hand vehicle movements onto the Victoria Bridge from Grey Street.
- Would simplify bus movements at the Melbourne St Busway portal and increase busway capacity. This would occur by removing West End-bound services (and selected terminating services) from the Busway lane.
- Providing a safe protected bi-direction bikelane across the Victoria Bridge, which will encourage more people to cycle between the Brisbane CBD and the suburbs immediately across the river such a West End, South Brisbane etc.
- Please see Figure 4 for our proposal of how the City end of the Victoria Bridge could be improved.

The CBD BUG does not see the proposal to make the Victoria Bridge a “Green Bridge” causing traffic grid lock - as people driving motor vehicles will adapt just as they did when the Busway first opened across the Victoria Bridge. While our proposal does not include bike lanes down the full length of Melbourne St, it should be the State Government and Council’s ambition for this to occur in the immediate future.

This proposal will result in a more pleasant and safe Melbourne Street corridor - due to the reduced motor vehicle movements that will result following the closure of the Victoria Bridge to general traffic.

I may be contacted directly via calling 0402 609 723 if you would like further details on this proposal.

Yours sincerely



Donald Campbell
Co-convenor
Brisbane CBD BUG
3rd January 2017

Cc: Mr Robert Dow, Rail Back on Track
The Honourable Mark Bailey, MP, Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports
The Honourable Jackie Trad MP, Member for South Brisbane
The Honourable Grace Grace, Member for Brisbane Central
Councillor Jonathan Sri, The Gabba Ward
Councillor Vickie Howard, Central Ward
Mr Ben Wilson, CEO, Bicycle Queensland

Figure 1: Proposed Victoria Bridge cross-sectional view

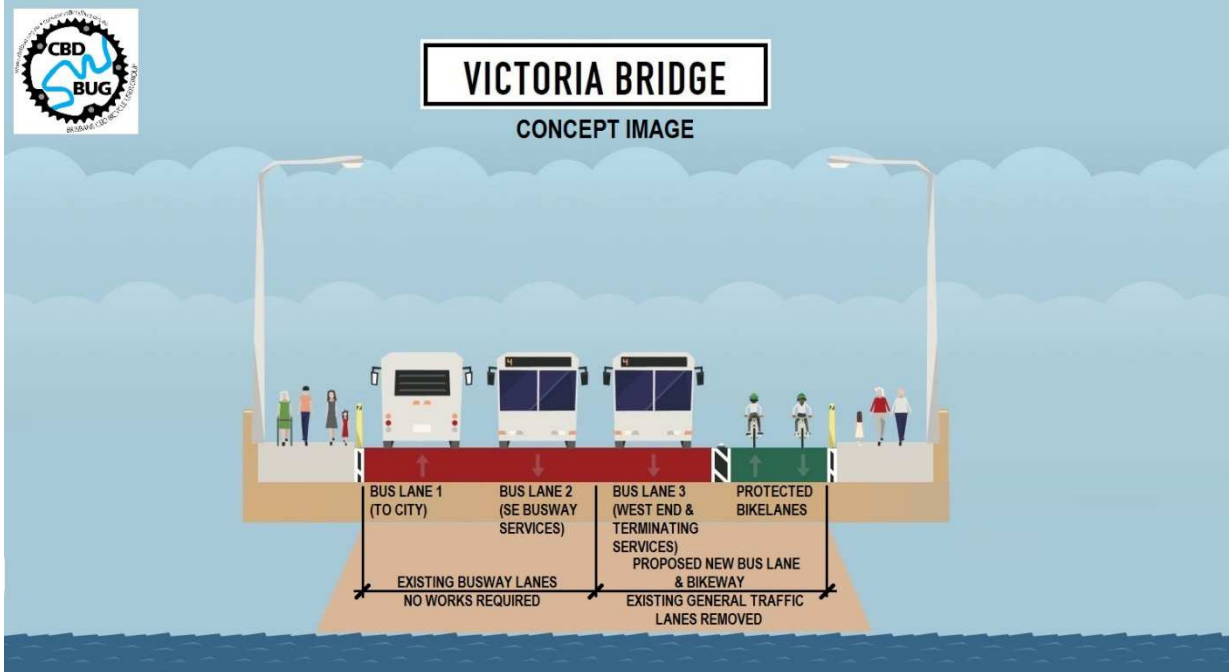


Figure 2: Proposed Cultural Centre Busway Station cross-sectional view

