



Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group

CBD BUG

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The Right Honourable Cr Adrian Schrinner
Lord Mayor of Brisbane
GPO Box 2287
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Via email to: lord.mayor@brisbane.qld.gov.au

Dear Lord Mayor

I refer to the letter dated 6 July 2021 (BCC ref: LM02397-2021) from Cr Krista Adams, written as the Acting Lord Mayor, responding to the Brisbane CBD BUG's letter regarding BCC's management of temporary footpath closures.

CBD BUG members very much welcome Cr Adams' advice that Council is increasing its footway closure fees to help offset the loss of community amenity arising from temporary footpath closures.

However, our view is that footpaths are essential public infrastructure. Accordingly, we are concerned BCC only seeks to "encourage" builders/developers to use hoardings and gantries instead of closing footpaths. Instead, we recommend BCC adopts a default position of footpaths not being closed unless applicants can clearly demonstrate community safety would be compromised via this approach.

A key concern requiring Council action that was raised in the previous CBD BUG letter but not mentioned in Cr Adams' response is the lack of notifications for the public of footpath closures. We see a double standard being applied here - as motorists are routinely notified prior to scheduled road works taking place. In contrast, footpath users in Brisbane are not afforded the courtesy for the complete closure of a footpath.

Providing prior notification for footpath users of closures well in advance of works commencing would only impose a small additional impost on builders/developers, and we can identify no legitimate reason why Council should not adopt this approach for the benefit of the wider community.

We look forward to your response on these changes we see as important steps towards regaining a balance between the needs of the community for access to their footpaths and the private interests of builders/developers.

Yours sincerely



Paul French
Co-convenor
Brisbane CBD BUG
23 October 2021

Cc: Bicycle Queensland
 Space4Cycling Brisbane
 Queensland Walks
 Inclusion Moves
 Cr Jared Cassidy - Leader of the Opposition
 Cr Jonathan Sri - The Gabba Ward
 Cr Nicole Johnston - Tennyson Ward