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12 April 2023

Mr Paul French
Co-convenor
Brisbane CBD BUG
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Dear Mr French *Paul*

Thank you for your email of 5 March 2023 about traffic signal timing and changes along Elizabeth and Edward Streets, Brisbane, and along the Woolloongabba Bikeway. The Lord Mayor is currently away from the office and has asked that I reply on this occasion.

I appreciate the CBD BUG's suggestions and can confirm that officers from Council's Transport Planning and Operations (TPO) have looked into the matters raised.

Council is aware that the intersection of Stanley Street and Annerley Road can be one of the bottlenecks across two key arterial roads and a motorway. However, given this intersection is outside a hospital, transport hub and near primary bikeways, the intersection has been designed to prioritise people walking and riding. During peak hours, the delays to pedestrians and cyclists are minimal in comparison to vehicles.

This intersection is highly unique and has one of the only pedestrian and cyclist operations that follows the parallel vehicle movement in Australia, which was implemented to improve cyclist coordination and reduce cyclist delays. At this stage, no changes to the phasing of the intersection will be implemented.

During the bikeway design process, implementation of a scramble crossing and single outbound right turn lane were considered, however, traffic modelling indicated that this would further exacerbate an already oversaturated road network, create longer queues and introduce safety issues elsewhere in the road network. It was also believed that these measures would introduce further delays to all users and, as such, were not considered.

Many motorists have limited travel paths and routes to reach their intended destinations, and Council's arterial road networks are built to carry these higher volumes of traffic in a safe and efficient manner. Council is committed to providing a network which is safe and efficient for all road users.

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As a regular user of cycling infrastructure, Council appreciates your feedback on existing infrastructure, including the metal bollard and concrete separator at the Annerley Road and Stanley Street intersection. TPO is further investigating whether the metal bollard can be removed and the concrete separator replaced with high visibility line marking to delineate travel paths and waiting areas for bikeway traffic. This will include review by a Registered Professional Engineer of Queensland (RPEQ) to ensure the bikeway remains safe for all road and footpath users. If approved, you can expect these changes to be implemented by early-June.

TPO has also reviewed your suggestions for improvements along the CityLink Cycleway. The recommendation for turning arrows for cyclists are noted, however, currently there are no approved 'bicycle only' turning signal lanterns that comply with the Australian Standards. In the examples from your video recordings, it is also noted that motorists do not receive the green turning lantern at this intersection. This is due to concerns for late running pedestrians or cyclists - motorists need to remain cautious and yield to any potential conflicts.

TPO's assessment has determined that the current amount of green time provided to cyclists adequately services the volume of cyclists at this time. Notwithstanding this, please be assured that Council will continually monitor traffic signal timings for the active transport community and implement changes where feasible.

It is not unusual for traffic signal coordination to appear misaligned in the CBD. If the green lights were perfectly aligned, it would not provide opportunity for turning traffic to move into the next segment, hence causing gridlock that prevents all vehicles from moving. When this occurs, traffic will start blocking intersections and force pedestrians and cyclists to weave between blocked vehicles, often resulting in safety hazards for active transport users. Therefore, at this stage, no changes to the traffic signal operation are proposed along the CityLink Cycleway. I understand this may not be the response you had anticipated, but I hope you can appreciate our need to balance the road operation for all users on the limited road space.

If you would like to discuss traffic signal timings further, I encourage you to contact Mr David Kroning, Traffic Network Manager, TPO, directly on 3407 8916.

Thank you again for contacting Council.

Yours sincerely



Krista Adams
ACTING MAYOR

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