



Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group

CBD BUG

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

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

Dear Lord Mayor

The CBD BUG is pleased some rectification works are now occurring to the shared cycling and walking corridor surface material at Howard Smith Wharves (HSW). However, it is extremely disappointing the developers of this precinct, which has been proclaimed to be “World Class”, have taken so long to correct a basic public safety issue.

Furthermore, we are concerned these works will not resolve the underlying issue - that a shared path on a “Primary Cycling” corridor is causing conflict between users. The fact HSW wanted to play down the transport function of the corridor (Figure 1) is clearly why the path has been constructed in such a user-unfriendly manner. This conflict is now resulting in people being discouraged from riding to/from New Farm via this precinct. The CBD BUG monthly Riverwalk peak hour count is currently showing a steep decrease in users of the path that is not in line with seasonal factors. In addition to this, crowds are so dense and unfamiliar with the area that at times and particularly on weekends HSW becomes practically impassable for a person on a bicycle.

Since the opening of HSW, Brisbane Times has run two stories on the substandard quality of the cycling corridor. It is clear from these articles that due to the cycling corridor being shared and not being segregated, conflict is occurring. The comments on the Brisbane Times Facebook page (Figure 2) clearly show that the poor path design is fueling animosity towards people who ride bicycles.

The CBD BUG clearly advised HSW in the consultation period that a shared path was not suitable. While we acknowledge that a segregated path will not be a silver bullet it will resolve much of the problems currently occurring. A simple white line with appropriate stencils is all it will take. Without this occurring the CBD BUG cannot see how the conflict along the cycling corridor will be resolved. To add to this, without a segregated path being implemented through HSW we do not foresee Riverwalk patronage reaching its full potential.

The Queensland Government and Australian Government made bold steps after the 2011 floods, by investing \$100 million in the replacement Riverwalk structure and BCC's delivery of this world class path showed terrific leadership. The CBD BUG calls on you to ensure that this leadership is not wasted and the economic benefits of a quality active transport corridor are not undermined by a developer's reluctance to correct an obvious design failure.

Yours faithfully

Paul French
Co-convenor
Brisbane CBD BUG
8 August 2019

CC
Cr Vicki Howard - Central Ward
Grace Grace MP - McConnel

Figure 1

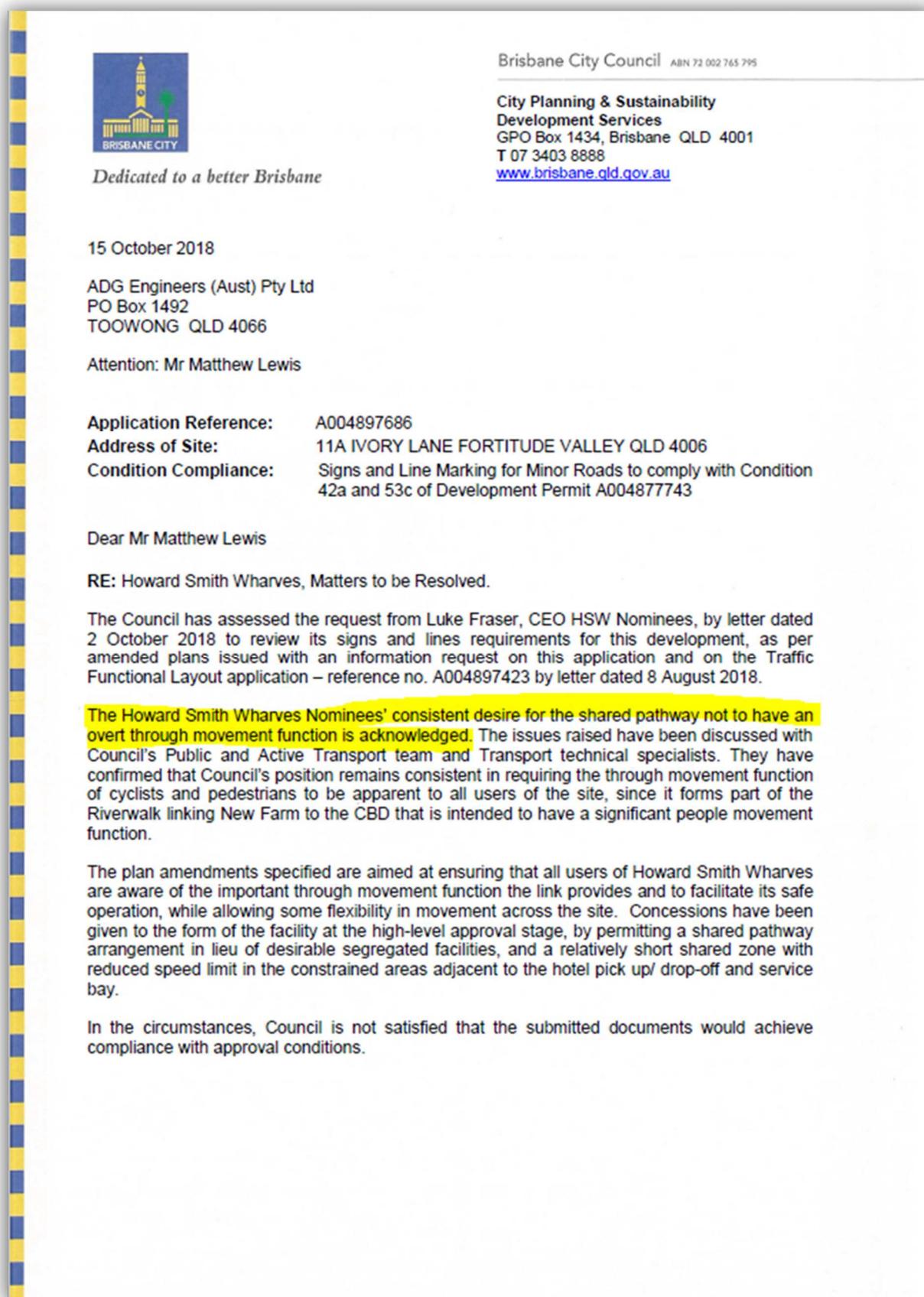


Figure 1

The image shows a screenshot of a Facebook comment thread. It contains eight comments from different users, each with a profile picture, name, text, interaction options (Like, Reply), and a timestamp. Some comments also show reaction counts and reply counts.

- Hayden E James**: So now cycle paths aren't even good enough for these morons? Eff me
Like · Reply · 21w
3 reactions (angry face)
- Rosemary Keenan**: Make it cycle free
Like · Reply · 21w
2 Replies
- Alex Aye**: Didn't realise HSW was the new location for the tour de france.
Like · Reply · 21w
2 reactions (thumbs up, thumbs down)
- Ken Oas**: Cyclists.. ya either want the road or the path? You can't whinge about both
Like · Reply · 21w
1 reaction (thumbs up)
17 Replies
- Todd Morrow**: The cyclists need to slow the hell down. My 2.5 year old daughter and i were almost taken out by a cyclist on sunday afternoon who thought it was a bloody raceway! I swear these guys don't use their brain and their selfishness is astounding. It's a massively crowded area. Either slow down or find another route to take.
Like · Reply · 3w
14 reactions (thumbs up, thumbs down, angry face)
- Chord Savage** (Top Fan): pay rego if you want your own road or ride on roads. if you live in city highly unlike you own a car most people i know in City don't own cars
Like · Reply · 3w
5 reactions (thumbs up, angry face)
- Anita Wyndham**: Is it too much to ask cyclists to dismount and walk their bike through that area.
Like · Reply · 3w
5 reactions (thumbs up)
- Andrew Crapp**: Are cyclists complaining about having to slow down for slower traffic on the road? Maybe they should introduce a law for safety requiring a 1m gap between the cyclist and slower traffic who are limited to being two abreast. Cyclist will just have to wait for an appropriate spot to pass the same as cars on roads.....
Like · Reply · 3w
3 reactions (thumbs up, thumbs down)