



Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group

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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

This submission is provided to convey the views of the Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group (CBD BUG) in relation to the Development Application (DA) (A005352537) for the proposed ferry terminal at Howard Smith Wharves (HSW).

It is our regular practice that the CBD BUG does not comment on DAs other than in terms of how they will affect cycling. However, in this instance we object to Council spending ratepayer's money on a project to principally benefit a private firm that has shown great contempt to community members wanting to use the path through this precinct.

We question the public benefit of this new ferry terminal - given there is no other primary destination in this vicinity other than the private operations of the HSW developer and high frequency bus services along Brunswick St (BUZ196 & BUZ199).

While popular with the public opinion because of their scenic journey Brisbane ferries are already slow compared buses and trains. This additional stop will only make ferry services even slower & undermine their function as a commuter travel option. Even the swift CityCat service are still slower than a person on CityCycle.

Furthermore, there should be no BCC investment in this terminal while there is a petition before Council calling for a new segregated path along riverfront in front of the HSW development – required to allow people on foot or riding bicycles to bypass the bottlenecks caused by the HSW development. At the very least we call on BCC to take the opportunity to extend the river walk as per this petition and combine it with this ferry terminal.

The existing primary active transport path through the HSW development is already subject to constant conflict between transport modes due to its poor design. This has been subject to multiple media stories. The terminal has not been located directly opposite the lift/stairs at the South East corner of HSW which will result in local residents that may use the terminal having to walk through HSW to access ferry services. Due to this placement of the ferry terminal it will place further movements on the primary active transport corridor exacerbating the existing problems.

Finally, we also strongly object to Council's use of its own DA notification / submission process for this proposal in the context of the current COVID-19 pandemic. With official Government advice (state & federal) people are staying home as much as possible at this time. The DA notices at this site have been far less effective than they would have been at other times. Placing DA notifications behind the Courier Mail's website paywall or even in the paper version, which has an increasingly diminishing readership also limits the public's awareness of DA application. As a result, the CBD BUG only became aware of this DA submission period thanks to social media.

Looking forward to your response

Yours faithfully



Donald Campbell
Brisbane CBD BUG
24 April 2020

CC: Bicycle Queensland
Space for Cycling Brisbane
Cr Vicki Howard
Grace Grace MP
Cr Ryan Murphy
Cr Jared Cassidy

Central Ward
Member for McConnel
Chair of Public and Active Transport Committee
Chair of Public and Active Transport Committee