

## Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group CBD BUG

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The Honourable Trevor Evans MP Federal Member for Brisbane PO Box 143 ALBION DC QLD 4010

Via email to: Trevor.Evans.MP@aph.gov.au

## Dear Mr Evans

The CBD BUG is contacting you regarding the Federal Government's commitment for Australia to be net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

As you would have read in "Australia's long term emissions reduction plan", transport contributes around 19% of Australia's carbon emissions with over 80% of that from road transport. Further to this, we know journeys of private passenger vehicles (aka cars) make up a significant proportion of these emissions. Australian Bureau of Statistics data points to 19,2% of Queenslanders' usual trips to work or full-time study being less than 5km, while another 16.9% of these trips are less than 10km. With the Queensland Government's 2018 Household Travel Survey as a proportion of all trips in Brisbane ≈50% are below 6kms and ≈67% below 10kms (Figure 1). Following on from this the Household Travel Survey indicates 74.9% of people travel by car (Figure 2) – we clearly have an overdependence on cars for trips that could be travelled by bicycle and/or walking.

For quite some time now the Coalition Government has focused on "technology, not taxes", to reduce Australia's contribution to global carbon emissions. Understanding that strategy and that short to medium distance car journeys have a significant carbon footprint, why not invest in infrastructure to support an existing carbon neutral technology? From a practical perspective the bicycle is carbon neutral and its use in Australia is being held back by a lack of appropriate infrastructure investment.

To our knowledge the current Federal Coalition Government is yet to provide funding to a standalone piece of active transport infrastructure in Brisbane that was not promised by a previous government. Following the above points, investing in active transport infrastructure for bicycle riding and other forms of micromobility has a great potential to reduce Australia's carbon emissions at minimum cost, while improving people's lifestyles and health and by using existing technology.

People enjoy walking and cycling, but often don't have these travel modes as options because of the lack of appropriate infrastructure – so governments should ensure everyone has the option to walk and/or cycle.

No matter where we live, it's important for everyone in our community to access and enjoy our streets and have a practical choice of transport. That means constructing the many missing links in our walking and cycling networks with appropriately designed walking and cycling infrastructure.

Accordingly, the CBD BUG is interested to know if you, as a member of the Federal Government and the member for Brisbane, are currently advocating for the Federal Government to invest in active transport infrastructure for Brisbane and what projects are at the top of your list.

Looking forward to your reply,

Yours sincerely

Donald Campbell Brisbane CBD BUG

14 November 2021

CC

Space for Cycling Brisbane

**Queensland Walks** 

Madonna Jarrett Labor Candidate for Federal Seat of Brisbane Stephen Bates Greens Candidate for Federal Seat of Brisbane

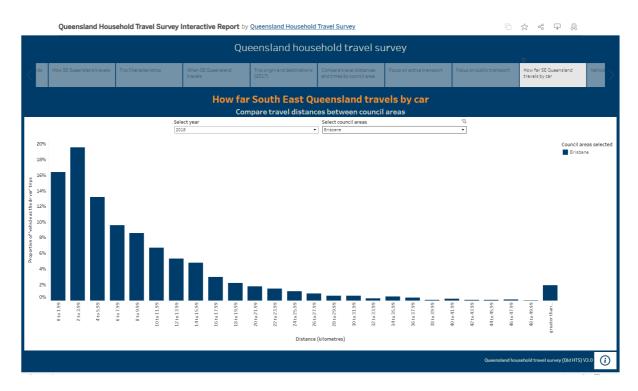


Figure 1

(i)

Figure 2