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Re: CBD BUG letter to 2015 State Election candidate re need to foster bike riding

From: **Robert Hogg** (rhogg5912@gmail.com)
Sent: Sunday, 25 January 2015 12:05:35 PM
To: Brisbane CBD BUG (convenors@cdbbug.org.au)

Hello Paul,

Thank-you for your email. I'm a bike rider - mostly for exercise but occasionally for commuting. I agree wholehearted with your goals and I'm particularly aware of the issues you raise around on-road safety. My wife is one woman who would like to cycle, but is put off by the potential danger.

Good luck with your work and if there's anything I can do to assist please let me know. Perhaps you would be interested in addressing one of the Mt Coot-th Greens branch meetings in the future?

Cheers,
Robert

On Sat, Jan 24, 2015 at 6:50 PM, Brisbane CBD BUG <convenors@cdbbug.org.au> wrote:

Hello Mr Hogg

You may have been forwarded the Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group's (CBD BUG) previous email, which was one of four sent to the major parties contesting the 2015 Qld State Election, seeking commitments to encourage more people to ride bikes more often for transport.

As a follow-up we're now also sending the email you will see below to every candidate contesting a state seat within the Brisbane Local Government Area.

I am simply including you as a recipient of this email for your information. Given the Greens have already published their policies on active and public transport (which are highly supportive of cycle commuting) there's no real need for you to reply.

All the best

Paul French
Co-convenor
Brisbane CBD BUG

**Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group
CBD BUG**

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Mr Robert Hogg
The Greens candidate for Ashgrove
C/- robert.hogg@qld.greens.org.au

Dear Mr Hogg

This letter seeks your commitment as the Greens candidate for the seat of Ashgrove in the 2015 Queensland State Election to increasing the proportion of trips made by bicycle.

As background for you to this letter, the Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group (CBD BUG) is a grass roots volunteer organisation of more than 700 members, representing the interests of the very large number of people riding bicycles to, from and within the Brisbane city centre. It is active in seeking policy decisions at all levels of government supporting people who want to cycle, and in particular relating to improved infrastructure, end-of-trip facilities, integration of cycling needs with other transport modes and a regulatory environment friendly towards people riding bikes. Our members meet monthly to exchange information and ideas, discuss issues of relevance and determine the direction of policies to benefit CBD cyclists.

Australian Bureau of Statistics data indicates that almost 40% of trips to regular destinations by Brisbane residents are made via private motor vehicle over short distances that could instead easily be traveled by bicycle (or even walking). Importantly, enabling people to leave their cars at home and cycle (or walk) would have a range of benefits including: easing the cost of living; turning back the rising tide of obesity; reducing traffic congestion; alleviating pollution; increasing productivity and providing a safer and more socially-connected community.

A range of reputable studies also indicates that approximately 40% of the community would like to ride bikes more frequently, but is put off taking up cycling because of the lack of suitable infrastructure and concerns about the safety of cycling on-road. Women are particularly concerned about the dangers posed by motor vehicles.

In light of this compelling information, now is the time for the Queensland Government to increase its efforts to re-balance its approach to urban transport and prioritise cycling and walking ahead of driving.

Accordingly, the CBD BUG would like you to articulate how you envisage your constituents (aged 8 to 80 years) traveling safely by bike around your electorate and to/from the Brisbane CBD.

If you have any questions in relation to this letter please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Yours sincerely

Donald Campbell
Co-convenor
Brisbane CBD BUG
24 January 2015