



Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group

CBD BUG

GPO Box 2104, Brisbane 4001

convenors@cbdbug.org.au

0423 974 825

www.cbdbug.org.au

The Honourable Campbell Newman MP
Premier of Queensland
PO Box 15185
CITY EAST QLD 4002

Dear Premier

This letter seeks your intervention to immediately open the bike paths that were built as part of AirportlinkM7 - specifically, the section that is currently fenced-off and padlocked between Mann Park and Campbell Street, Bowen Hills.

The Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group (CBD BUG) is a grass roots volunteer organisation representing the interests of the very large number of Brisbane residents who ride bicycles to, from and within the Brisbane CBD.

The reason for this letter is that the AirportlinkM7 tunnel was officially opened for motorists on Tuesday 24 July 2012. However, it is now approaching seven months after this opening and a key section of bicycle path that was to be delivered as part of this project remains closed, with signs advising cyclists to use Bowen Bridge Road.

Exacerbating the frustration cyclists have experienced at this undue delay is the fact that this path includes a shared cyclist / pedestrian bridge across Enoggera Creek, constructed as part of the Clem7 tunnel project that was completed in early 2010. This highlights the fact that cyclists and pedestrians have been waiting since Clem7's tunneling commenced in August 2006 for a safe connection through this precinct.

More recently, since July 2012 CBD BUG representatives have made numerous enquiries to the following agencies/entities seeking advice on when this path will be opened : BriscConnections; Theiss John Holland; the Department of Transport and Main Roads; AirportlinkM7; Brisbane City Council; City North Infrastructure; and the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection. The responses to these enquiries can be summarised as finger pointing - with no one being prepared to explain why the completed path linking Mann Park in Windsor to Campbell Street in Bowen Hills is still closed or when it will be opened.

The ongoing, and at this stage, indefinite closure of this path forces cyclists to ride along Bowen Bridge Road, which has very large volumes of traffic and no on-road space for bike riders. The only other alternative available for cyclists is to ride along the narrow footpath - a route that inconvenienced hospital patrons and requires cyclists to dismount when crossing the additional five (minimum) major intersections as required by State law.

In light of this inordinate and unacceptable delay the CBDBUG calls upon you to ensure this new and apparently completed infrastructure is immediately opened.

You would no doubt be aware of the recent media attention paid to the lengthy sections of bikeway constructed beside the South East Busway during 2000, which to this day remain disconnected and unused. You are strongly urged to ensure this critical northern route does not become the "lost cycleway of Brisbane's north".

I look forward to your response in these issues.

If further clarification on this matter is required please call Aaron Ball (CBD BUG northside contact) directly on 0411 145 667.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul French', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Paul French
Co-convenor
Brisbane CBD BUG
6 February 2013