



Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group

CBD BUG

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The Honourable Scott Emerson MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads
GPO Box 2644
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Minister

This letter requests information regarding the prohibition of cycling on the Centenary Highway from Mt Coot-tha to Springfield that took effect from 11 April 2014.

As background, the CBD BUG was advised of this ban via the attached email from your department late on Wednesday 9 April 2014.

This advice stated that "the ultimate outcome of this prohibition will be cyclists using the safer alternative to travel (using dedicated, off-road cycle paths) rather than the potentially hazardous route of the Centenary Highway".

However, it is also important to remember that on 10 October 2012 you announced the seven kilometres of pathway/bikepath planned to parallel the Centenary Highway between Richlands and Springfield would not be delivered in favour of additional lanes for motorists. As such there is no safe alternative for cyclists to use along this section. This was known by your department at the time of the imposition of the ban.

It is acknowledged that some of the older sections of the Centenary Highway may not be attractive to the some cyclists. However, the more recently constructed section south of the Ipswich motorway has wider shoulders and is much more conducive to cyclists.

The following questions about the ban were sent to your department on 10 April 2014. We still have not had a response and are now writing to seek your response.

- 1) Who performed the independent assessment of cyclist safety on the Centenary Highway?
- 2) Did this assessment take into account numerous other roads in Queensland with similar conditions on which cyclists can continue to legally ride?
- 3) What stakeholder consultation occurred, including with Brisbane City Council, Ipswich City Council and other cycling advocacy groups, as part of this assessment, when was this consultation conducted and what feedback was obtained through this consultation?
- 4) What factor did the current two-year trial of the Minimum Overtaking Distance rule play in this decision?
- 5) What measures will you now take to provide cyclists with a safe alternative route between Richlands and Springfield?

CBD BUG members have since added the two following questions in relation to which they would now also like responses.

- 1) When the safety of the section between Progress Road and Augusta Parkway was assessed, was this compare to that of the alternative routes?
- 2) Did this safety assessment cover the individually accessible sections of the highway, or only the highway as a whole?

Finally, the CBD BUG requests you provide a copy of the independent report on the assessment of cyclist safety on the Centenary Highway.

If further clarification or definition of this request is required I may be contacted directly on 0423 974 825.

Yours sincerely



Paul French
Co-convenor
Brisbane CBD BUG
18 June 2014