

Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group CBD BUG

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11 November 2024

The Hon Jarrod Bleijie
Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning
GPO Box 611
Brisbane Qld 4001

By email: deputy.premier@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Dear Minister Bleijie

Proposal for the Establishment of a Cycling and Active Transport Advisory Committee

Congratulations on your recent appointment as Queensland's Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning. We are writing to you on behalf of the Brisbane CBD Bicycle User Group (BUG) to propose the establishment of a dedicated Cycling and Active Transport Advisory Committee that will help set priorities for cycling infrastructure across Queensland, particularly in time for the Olympics in 2032.

The Brisbane CBD BUG, along with various other BUGs across the state, has long been advocating for safer and more efficient cycling and active transport infrastructure. We consider the inclusion of our groups in an official advisory capacity will enable the provision of valuable insights and practical recommendations to enhance the active transport experience for all Queenslanders and people visiting for the 2032 Olympic Games.

Cycling is not only an environmentally sustainable mode of transport but also delivers improved community health (resulting in reduced impact and cost on the health system), reduction in traffic congestion, and contributes to the overall quality of life. The recent increase in cycling and other active transport activities during the global pandemic has highlighted the need for well-planned and maintained infrastructure to support this growing demand. The upcoming Olympic Games is also a key driver for developing and improving the existing active transport infrastructure, particularly in South East Queensland.

We propose that the Cycling and Active Transport Advisory Committee be chaired by a senior official from the Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning and comprise representatives from:

- Bicycle User Groups from various regions within Queensland where Olympic events will be staged
- Bicycle Queensland
- Relevant local government authorities
- Relevant community organisations
- Transport infrastructure experts, and
- Urban planners.

The primary objectives of this advisory committee would be to:

- 1. Assess current cycling and active transport infrastructure and identify key areas for improvement
- 2. Develop a strategic plan to enhance connectivity and safety for bike riders and other users across the state to be delivered in time for the 2032 Olympic Games
- 3. Prioritise projects that will provide the most significant benefits to the active transport community to be delivered in time for the 2032 Olympic Games
- 4. Facilitate community engagement and gather input from bike riders and other stakeholders, particularly those in the sport, health and education sectors
- 5. Recommend the allocation of resources and funding towards the identified active transport infrastructure projects.

We are confident that the formation of this committee will lead to more informed decision-making and result in a comprehensive and effective approach to developing active transport infrastructure in Queensland. The active participation of BUGs will ensure that the voices of everyday bike riders are heard and considered in planning and policy development.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this proposal further and to work collaboratively with your office to initiate this important initiative. Please feel free to contact us at your earliest convenience to arrange a meeting.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to your positive response and to a future where cycling and other forms of active transport are safe, accessible, and an integral part of Queensland's transport system.

Yours sincerely

M Doolan

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Cc: Bicycle Queensland Space4Cycling Brisbane