



Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group

CBD BUG

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The Honourable Mick de Brenni MP
Minister for Housing and Public Works
PO Box 2457
BRISBANE QLD 4001
Via email to: hpw@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Dear Minister

I write to you on behalf of Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group (CBD BUG) members regarding the continuing safety issues of the Goodwill Bridge deck resurfacing.

While we are aware your department has been making changes to the surface since the initial resurfacing in 2017 the CBD BUG is still fielding reports from cyclists that the surface is substandard and resulting in people skidding and / or falling while riding bicycles.

As you are aware the works carried out by the contractor for the Department of Housing and Public Works in 2017 were not up to a standard that allowed for a person riding a bike to safely descend or even ascend the Goodwill Bridge without the potential for a bicycle to slip / skid out from under a person. Since that time the CBD BUG is aware that an additional abrasive layer has been added to the surface coating. While this may have reduced incidents of bicycle skidding slipping out from others it has not fully resolved the issues.

After early morning rain on 25 January 2018 the CBD BUG observed/ fielded reports of at least 10 people that had fallen from bikes due to the bridge's slippery surface. One report involved the very concerning matter of an elderly gentleman suffering a broken pelvis. Figure 1 on the following page shows the location where most of the falls occurred, which is at the City (northern) end of the bridge.

As can be seen, while there is a slight layer of organic matter dropped from the trees this should not be used as an excuse for the abnormally high number of falls at this location, since organic matter on the path has been a factor for the entire existence of the bridge. The CBD BUG would also like to point out that there was also a report of person walking who slipped and fell. Hence, this is not an issue limited to cyclists or a matter of people riding too fast for the conditions.

The CBD BUG therefore requests that you take immediate action to have works undertaken to have the surface rectified. It appears that works and rectification works by the contractor have not resolved the issues. Compared with previous works performed to the bridge surface, it is not up to previous standards of safety and amenity.

The CBD BUG would also like to take this opportunity to once again request that the bollards at the northern landing point be relocated away from the bend to reduce their potential as a crash hazard - and be moved so that they are located no closer than midpoint between the bend and the end of the bridge.

Yours sincerely



Donald Campbell
Co-convenor
Brisbane CBD BUG
4 February 2018

CC
Vicki Howard – Councillor for Brisbane Central Ward
Jonathan Sri – Councillor for Gabba Ward
Grace Grace MP– Member for McConnel
Jackie Trad MP – Member for South Brisbane

Figure 1: Goodwill Bridge deck – city end looking towards QUT

