



Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group

CBD BUG

GPO Box 2104, Brisbane 4001

convenors@cbdbug.org.au

www.cbdbug.org.au

The Hon Annastacia Palaszczuk MP
Premier of Queensland
PO Box 15185
City East
Queensland 4002

Dear Premier

I write to you on behalf of Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group (CBD BUG) members to express our concern that the proposed Neville Bonner Bridge to be built as part of the Queens Wharf needs to be redesigned so that a failure of poor planning is not set in concrete.

As background for you, the Brisbane CBD BUG is a grass roots volunteer organisation of more than 700 members, representing the interests of the very large number of residents who ride bicycles to, from and within the city of Brisbane. Brisbane CBD BUG members actively seek policy decisions at all levels of government that support cycling. In particular CBD BUG members seek improved infrastructure, end-of-trip facilities, integration of cycling with other transport modes and a cyclist-friendly regulatory environment.

The CBD BUG is aware that Brisbane City Council is calling for the Neville Bonner pedestrian bridge to be cancelled. The CBD BUG would like to express that in line with our general practice we do not endorse projects that are not specifically cycling related and only advocate for projects to have cycling included in them. With this outlined the CBD BUG does express that if the Neville Bonner Bridge is built as currently proposed with no provision for use by people riding bicycles it will be widely seen as a failure of proper planning. Governments throughout the world are moving to ensure cycling is included where ever possible, especially when in higher density urban environments.

The importance of ensuring this new river crossing connecting the city to West End comes also from the fact that the nearby Victoria Bridge provides a very poor connection for most cyclists from every perspective. This bridge has busy, cyclist-hostile intersections at both ends and narrow on-road lanes, while the up-stream footpath on which cyclists are allowed to ride is typically crowded with pedestrians. The Kurilpa Bridge located further upstream continues to be carry relatively low levels of cyclists traffic due to its very poor connection for people riding bicycles at its city end,

The new Neville Bonner Bridge could form a useful connection between West End and the south eastern corner of the CBD removing the need for people to ride along the congested South Bank promenade. However, this can only occur if the unfriendly design of the bridge with its stairs/lifts at both landing points is redesigned with appropriate ramps.

The CBD BUG sincerely requests that as Premier you intervene so the Neville Bonner Bridge is redesigned to be inclusive of all people moving via active transport whether they are on foot or wheels.

The CBD BUG would be happy to meet with any representative that would like to discuss this in further detail.

Yours sincerely



Donald Campbell
Co-convenor
Brisbane CBD BUG
19 September 2018
Ph 0402 609 723

CC

Cr Vicki Howard	- Central Ward
Cr Jonathan Sri	- Gabba Ward
Hon. Jackie Trad MP	- South Brisbane
Hon. Grace Grace MP	- McConnell
Lord Mayor Graham Quirk	- Brisbane City