



Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group

CBD BUG

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The Right Honourable Cr Adrian Schrinner
Lord Mayor of Brisbane
GPO Box 2287
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Via email to: lord.mayor@brisbane.qld.gov.au

Dear Lord Mayor

I write on behalf of Brisbane CBD BUG members to congratulate you on your recent appointment as Lord Mayor of Brisbane.

To ensure Brisbane's future livability and prosperity our city's transport system needs to transition away from its current over-dependence on private motor vehicles, which currently results in a broad range of negative consequences including the economic losses due to traffic congestion, adverse population health outcomes and harmful social capital impacts.

Accordingly, your announced commitment to invest \$550 million building five new green bridges has very much excited CBD BUG members - as the lack of Brisbane River crossings has been a longstanding obstacle holding back the growth of cycling and walking as viable and affordable transport modes for our city.

We do note the omission of an announcement about a new Bulimba to Teneriffe river crossing, with this bridge a potentially costly project especially if current river height restrictions cannot be renegotiated. If this is the case a pedestrian/cyclist tunnel should also be considered for this location.

It is also worth pointing out that additional active transport river crossings will only be as useful as the network that feeds them. The Kurilpa Bridge is particularly hamstrung by very poor connections to the Bicentennial Bikeway (something you can address by converting Tank St to a shared zone and allowing people to cycle southbound off the Kurilpa Bridge). A new bridge landing at Alice St / Edward St for instance, would need a network in the CBD that people will feel safe riding on to maximise its potential.

It is our view that these projects will be transformative due to the patronage that can be expected. A large section of the community has indicated through many surveys and questionnaires over many years that they wish to leave their cars at home and instead use active transport.

Accordingly, we offer our support for continued bold measures to increase the level of cycling, noting that this hasn't changed significantly in 20 years while females continue to be woefully under-represented among people riding bikes.

We wish you all the best as you take up the many challenges you will no doubt face in the office of Lord Mayor of Brisbane. We look forward to constructively working with you and your Council colleagues to ensure these new river crossings produce the many anticipated benefits for the Brisbane community.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read 'Paul French', enclosed in a light grey rectangular box.

Paul French
Co-convenor
Brisbane CBD BUG
16 April 2019

Cc: Cr Ryan Murphy, Chair, Public and Active Transport Committee
Cr Amanda Cooper, Chair, Infrastructure Committee
Ms Anne Savage, Chief Executive Officer, Bicycle Queensland
Hon Mark Bailey MP, Minister for Transport and Main Roads