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## **RE: CBD BUG letter to 2015 State Election candidate re need to foster bike riding**

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From: **Clayfield Electorate Office** (Clayfield@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Sent: Friday, 30 January 2015 2:08:43 PM

To: 'Brisbane CBD BUG' (convenors@cdbug.org.au)

This government is serious about providing people with a wide variety of transport options, as alternatives to driving to work. These include public transport (where we have recently reduced public transport fares), and cycling.

To this end, I am pleased to be able to deliver \$4 million to improve the bikeway between Woollooin and Albion, a section of road which is currently dangerous to both cyclists and motorists alike. Interestingly, Labor has no local plan for improving bicycle access, as is seen by their failure to match this promise.

Of course, the ability to spend money to improve bikeways here, as elsewhere, is dependent on having the financial resources to make this possible. This is a direct consequence of the government having made the strong choices necessary to reduce debt and build new and better infrastructure. By contrast, Labor's plan is to have high debt and high interest, at the expense of investment in the things which improve our local lifestyle.

**Tim Nicholls MP**

**Treasurer and Minister for Trade  
Member for Clayfield**





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**From:** Brisbane CBD BUG [mailto:convenors@cdbdbug.org.au]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 22 January 2015 10:51 PM  
**To:** Clayfield Electorate Office  
**Cc:** Donald Campbell; Richard Bean; Aaron Ball  
**Subject:** CBD BUG letter to 2015 State Election candidate re need to foster bike riding

**Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group**

**CBD BUG**

**GPO Box 2104, Brisbane 4001**

[convenors@cdbdbug.org.au](mailto:convenors@cdbdbug.org.au)

[www.cdbdbug.org.au](http://www.cdbdbug.org.au)

Mr Tim Nicholls

LNP candidate for Clayfield

C/- [clayfield@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:clayfield@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Mr Nicholls

This letter seeks your commitment as the LNP candidate for the seat of Clayfield in the 2015 Queensland State Election to increasing the proportion of trips made by bicycle. You may be interested to know that in comparison to the residents of Brisbane's southern and western

suburbs, north side residents are particularly poorly serviced for safe off-road cycle commuting connections to the city.

As background for you to this letter, the Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group (CBD BUG) is a grass roots volunteer organisation of more than 700 members, representing the interests of the very large number of people riding bicycles to, from and within the Brisbane city centre. It is active in seeking policy decisions at all levels of government supporting people who want to cycle, and in particular relating to improved infrastructure, end-of-trip facilities, integration of cycling needs with other transport modes and a regulatory environment friendly towards people riding bikes. Our members meet monthly to exchange information and ideas, discuss issues of relevance and determine the direction of policies to benefit CBD cyclists.

Australian Bureau of Statistics data indicates that almost 40% of trips to regular destinations by Brisbane residents are made via private motor vehicle over short distances that could instead easily be traveled by bicycle (or even walking). Importantly, enabling people to leave their cars at home and cycle (or walk) would have a range of benefits including: easing the cost of living; turning back the rising tide of obesity; reducing traffic congestion; alleviating pollution; increasing productivity and providing a safer and more socially-connected community.

A range of reputable studies also indicates that approximately 40% of the community would like to ride bikes more frequently, but is put off taking up cycling because of the lack of suitable infrastructure and concerns about the safety of cycling on-road. Women are particularly concerned about the dangers posed by motor vehicles.

In light of this compelling information, now is the time for the Queensland Government to increase its efforts to re-balance its approach to urban transport and prioritise cycling and walking ahead of driving.

Accordingly, the CBD BUG would like you to articulate how you envisage your constituents (aged 8 to 80 years) traveling safely by bike around your electorate and to/from the Brisbane CBD.

If you have any questions in relation to this letter please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Yours sincerely

Donald Campbell

Co-convenor

Brisbane CBD BUG

22 January 2015

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