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Re: CBD BUG letter to 2015 State Election candidate re need to foster bike riding

From: anita@peopledecide.org.au
Sent: Wednesday, 28 January 2015 12:42:42 AM
To: convenors@cdbdbug.org.au

Dear Donald,

Thank you for your email.

If elected I would envisage having a proposal made to put in place improved cycling infrastructure (consulting groups such as CBD BUG). This proposal would contain detailed and deliberative information about the benefits of improved cycling facilities (including, for example, any costs saved on road traffic maintenance and construction that would otherwise have been incurred).

The proposal would then be put to a vote for the electorate to decide whether they want this proposal to go forth or not. Based on the benefits provided, I would think that many constituents would approve of this. I think this is the fairest and most democratic way of dealing with this issue. Clearly, at least 40% already want to ride more frequently with the existing infrastructure, and I am sure that this percentage rise if the infrastructure could be provided.

You can read more about how the PeopleDecide system of participatory democracy would work on our website peopledecide.org.au or you can visit my website voteanitadiamond.com to see more about myself and my broad visions for my electorate.

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Anita.

On 2015-01-24T19:01:57+10:00, Brisbane CBD BUG <convenors@cdbdbug.org.au> wrote:

>

> Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group
CBD BUG
GPO Box 2104, Brisbane
4001
convenors@cdbdbug.org.au
www.cdbdbug.org.au
Ms Anita Diamond
Independent candidate for
Indooroopilly C/-
anita@peopledecide.org.au

> Dear Ms Diamond

> This letter seeks your commitment as the Independent candidate for the seat of Indooroopilly in the 2015 Queensland State Election to increasing the proportion of trips made by bicycle.

> 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
24 January 2015