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

From: **Gillian Marshall-Pierce** (tallgillbo@gmail.com)
Sent: Wednesday, 21 January 2015 9:54:58 PM
To: Brisbane CBD BUG (convenors@cdbbug.org.au)

Hello Donald,

Thanks for your letter. As the Greens candidate of Yeerongpilly, I have an absolute commitment to working towards a world class public transport system in the electorate and in Brisbane and improving and increasing bikeways to encourage people to ride for shorter trips more frequently. There are some good bikeways in the electorate already, but it really depends on the destination as the challenge is that there are parts of the electorate that are best accessible by busy (non-bike friendly) roads such as Beadesert Rd. and Ipswich Rd. If elected, I would be wanting to put together a reference group of local cyclists and interested parties to come up with a proposal for how to improve bikeways and accessibility.

Kind Regards

Gillian

Gillian Marshall-Pierce
Yeerongpilly Greens Candidate/Yeerongpilly Greens Branch Secretary
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On Wed, Jan 21, 2015 at 8:42 PM, Brisbane CBD BUG <convenors@cdbbug.org.au> wrote:

Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group
CBD BUG
GPO Box 2104, Brisbane 4001
convenors@cdbbug.org.au
www.cdbbug.org.au

Ms Gillian Marshall-Pierce
The Greens candidate for Yeerongpilly
C/- yeerongpilly@qld.greens.org.au

Dear Ms Marshall-Pierce

This letter seeks your commitment as the Greens candidate for the seat of Yeerongpilly 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 traveling 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
21 January 2015

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Gillian Marshall-Pierce

Yeerongpilly Greens Candidate/Yeerongpilly Greens Branch Secretary

QUEENSLAND GREENS

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