



OFFICE OF THE
LORD MAYOR
Brisbane

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15 November 2013

Mr Paul French
Co-convenor
Brisbane CBD BUG
GPO Box 2104
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Dear Mr French

Thank you for your letter of 15 October 2013 requesting the removal of restrictions on the operating hours of Council's bike hire scheme, CityCycle. Your feedback and support for CityCycle is appreciated.

I note that you would like users to have 24-hour access to CityCycle and understand Mr Yru Redhead from Council's Transport Planning and Strategy (TPS) branch spoke with you on 24 October about Council's plans to extend the scheme's operating hours.

I am pleased to confirm that, from 1 December, CityCycle will operate 24 hours a day on a trial basis for three months to encourage more people to cycle more often in Brisbane. Mr Redhead will contact you at the end of March when the results of the trial have been assessed to discuss any potential outcomes that may arise.

As you are aware, the CityCycle scheme is owned and operated by JCDecaux Australia under agreement with Council. In January 2009, after considering a range of operational issues and community concerns, many of which you mention in your letter, Council and JCDecaux decided to set the minimum hours of operation between 5am and 10pm daily.

Importantly, these operating hours allowed Council and JCDecaux to roll out the scheme, ensuring little, if any, impact on the broader community in terms of potential noise and public safety issues. It also enabled the seamless operational distribution of bikes across the CityCycle network.

As the scheme grew in popularity, and following a recent survey of CityCycle subscribers, Council is satisfied that there are benefits in expanding the hours of operation.

In relation to your feedback about the effectiveness of linking Translink's go card to the CityCycle scheme, I am pleased to advise that there have been year-on-year increases in patronage.

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In the first year after the launch of CityCycle in 2010, 7587 subscribers had made 82,691 trips. The following year 24,770 subscribers made 194,935 trips. This significant increase is due in no small part to the completion of the CityCycle network, which grew from 104 to 150 bike stations and the introduction of courtesy helmets on many of the bikes.

CityCycle recently celebrated its third anniversary with an increase of almost 15% in patronage with 223,692 trips, and a 17% rise in subscriptions with 29,111 subscribers. This continued growth is encouraging and Council is confident that the scheme will become increasingly popular over time.

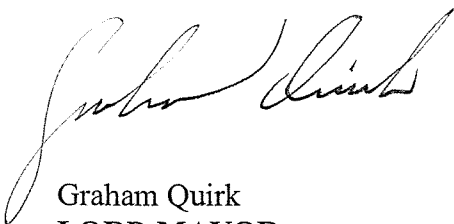
I can assure you that Council will continue to work with our CityCycle partners, JCDecaux Australia, to further improve the scheme.

I also appreciate your concerns that CityCycle's current level of use may fuel debate about investment in cycling infrastructure generally, however, be assured that Council will continue to fund improvements to Brisbane's cycling network. I am committed to providing more bike paths and shared pathways, as well as supporting other cycling initiatives, to encourage more people to take up healthy and active transport options and ease congestion on our roads.

I trust this information is helpful to you. Should you wish to discuss CityCycle in more detail, please contact Mr Redhead on 3403 8888.

Again, thank you for contacting me. Your continued advocacy of cycling issues helps Council to plan for a safer and more accessible Brisbane.

Yours sincerely



Graham Quirk
LORD MAYOR

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