

# More roads, more traffic

## CRUEL TO BE KIND

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COMMUTERS should be left to sit in traffic jams and a congestion tax slapped on CBD drivers.

That was the message for Brisbane's Lord Mayor Campbell Newman last week when former mayor of Columbian capital Bogota, Enrique Penalosa, arrived in Brisbane to detail his hardline methods of forcing drivers to abandon the car and take public transport.

The politician spoke before a room of government bureaucrats on how he revolutionised transport in a city of 6.5 million people in just three years before being voted out in 2000.

This included slugging motorists with a fuel surcharge, building 300km of bikepaths, refusing to build more roads so people would be forced to choose between sitting in traffic or using public transport and banning cars one day a year.

Mr Penalosa warned Cr Newman his tunnels and road building plans would not solve



**STAND STILL:** Forcing drivers to sit in traffic is the only way to solve the problem, council has been warned.

congestion, saying the program would only lead to worse congestion in the future.

"It will solve it temporarily for one year or five or 10 years but they will create some very bad effects," Mr Penalosa said.

"Density will be lower so it will be more difficult to have low cost, high frequency, quality public transport."

While the RACQ is mostly in support, both Cr Newman and Labor councillors have ruled out a congestion tax in the CBD.

Cr Newman said his plan was a balance between roads, bikepaths and public transport.

"I have never ever suggested that just by building roads and tunnels it will provide an answer," Cr Newman said.