

Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group CBD BUG

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The Honourable Campbell Newman MP Premier of Queensland PO Box 15185 CITY EAST QLD 4002

Dear Premier

This letter seeks your advice of a completion date for the partially constructed Roma Street pedestrian/bicycle overpass.

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 Brisbane residents who ride bicycles to, from and within the Brisbane CBD. It is active in vigorously seeking policy decisions at all levels of government supporting cycling, and in particular relating to improved infrastructure, end-of-trip facilities, integration of cycling with other transport modes and a cyclist-friendly regulatory environment. CBD BUG members meet monthly to exchange information and ideas, discuss issues of relevance and determine the direction of policies to benefit CBD cyclists.

The CBD BUG views the partially constructed Roma Street pedestrian/bicycle overpass as an important off-road route for bicycle riders through the CBD. When completed the overpass will create an almost entirely off-road connection between the Roma Street Parklands and the major cultural centres at South Brisbane. The completion of this connection would greatly increase cyclist and pedestrian accessibility to and within the Brisbane CBD.

This infrastructure was discussed at length during a meeting in 2009 with the architectural team for the now completed Supreme Court and District Court precinct project. At this time the CBD BUG provided input to enhance the design of this connection to ensure its safety and amenity.

In being partially constructed the Roma Street pedestrian/bicycle overpass is a wasted opportunity. Currently, the ramp from George Street is fully constructed and can be clearly seen by passers-by. Having partially completed infrastructure in such a highly visible place highlights for the community the low priority accorded by the Queensland Government to active transport.

The CBD BUG has been receiving complaints and requests of how people riding bikes are to access the Cultural Centre and Southbank from the Roma Street Parkland precinct and vice versa. The current situation between these two important locations in Brisbane City is neither desirable nor acceptable.

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If further clarification on this matter is required please contact Donald Campbell directly on 0402 609 723.

Yours faithfully

Paul French Co-convenor

Brisbane CBD BUG

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