




Dedicated to a better Brisbane

Shayne Sutton

COUNCILLOR FOR MORNINGSIDE

MORNINGSIDE WARD OFFICE

Ground Floor, 63 Oxford Street, Bulimba, Queensland 4171

PHONE: 3407 8200 FAX: 3407 8205  Shayne Sutton

EMAIL: morningside.ward@ecn.net.au



Paul French & Ian Lister
Convenors
CBD BUG
GPO Box 2104
Brisbane QLD 4001

Dear Paul and Ian

I am writing to seek your assistance to help manage an area of ongoing concern between cyclists and residents within the Morningside Ward.

You may be aware that the section of shared pathway along Wynnum Road between Hawthorne Road Hawthorne and Canning Bridge in Norman Park is an area of ongoing concern for both cyclists who travel through this area and residents living along this particular stretch of road.

Recently I have met with residents living along this route and they have expressed their concerns and anxiety about the potential for conflict with cyclists as they are entering and exiting their driveways.

While residents assure me they exercise every care in entering and exiting their driveways, they have expressed real concerns about conflict with cyclists is still occurring with cyclists outside their homes.

The Wynnum Road residents have asked me to assist them in conveying their experiences to cyclists in a general sense in the hope of increasing cyclists understanding of their actions on this part of the Wynnum Road shared pathway.

My understanding of Wynnum Road residents' concerns are two fold:

- 1) **Many residents living along this stretch of Wynnum Road have extremely limited vision when exiting their properties making it difficult to see cyclists using the shared pathway.**

Due to the alignment of Wynnum Road, some residents can only see a few metres either side of their driveways. This often makes it difficult to see cyclists travelling along the shared bikeway, particularly if they are travelling at speed. Residents trying to exit their driveways feel very anxious about potential conflict with a cyclist travelling near their property as they commence exit. Often they cannot see that a cyclist is coming down the shared pathway when they commence the exit from their properties, particularly if the cyclists is more than ten or fifteen metres away. For some residents this distance is even less.

Working for you in Morningside Ward

The Wynnum Road Residents are seeking your assistance to make cyclists using this stretch of shared pathway aware that, while residents use due care in exiting their properties and are mindful of cyclists using the pathway, their vision is extremely limited. Therefore, it may be prudent for cyclists using this cycle way to exercise additional care in this area and slow down on the approach to driveways in this area.

- 2) **Residents on Wynnum Road must make a two stage traffic assessment before exiting their properties. The first stage being to cross the shared pathway once they have determined the shared pathway is clear of cyclists and pedestrians. The second stage being to enter in the general traffic lanes on Wynnum Road at a safe point.**

Wynnum Road Residents have advised me that once they decide the shared pathway is clear of cyclists and pedestrians and commence exiting from their property, they often have to sit across the pathway until there is a break in the traffic on Wynnum Road. This can take a little time, particularly in peak periods. Residents report conflict with cyclists who become frustrated and sometimes confrontational with the cars blocking the pathway. The residents want me to stress on their behalf that they do not mean to cause any inconvenience to cyclists in these actions, but want cyclists to be aware that sometimes the length of time they need to wait to enter the traffic lanes means that cyclists come along after they have commenced exit from their properties but before they can enter the traffic lanes on Wynnum Road.

Once again, residents ask that you assist in explaining this situation to your members who may use this stretch of Wynnum Road. It is hoped this may provide a better understanding that it is not residents' intent to disregard or inconvenience cyclists by blocking the pathway but more about the need to enter the traffic lanes on Wynnum Road at a safe point.

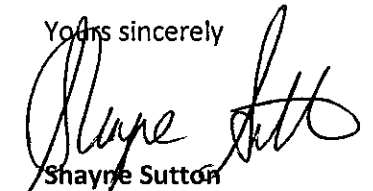
To further address these issues I have written to Lord Mayor Graham Quirk, Council Chief Executive Office Colin Jenson and Mr Barry Bullion Senior Sergeant of Morningside Police Station to request:

- 1) A uniformed Police presence along this stretch of road to monitor the behaviour of all users of this space;
- 2) A count of cyclists using the shared pathway and at what times;
- 3) Consideration of the installation of speed limit or speed warning signs similar to those on the Goodwill and Sir Leo Hielscher Bridges;
- 4) Installation of CCTV cameras to record incidents of conflict between motorists and cyclists;
- 5) Repainting of some of the existing pavement markings to improve their visibility. Many of these markings have faded and are now difficult to read;
- 6) Installation of reflective mirrors in key locations on the shared pathways to assist with residents' vision of the shared pathway.

Should you consider these requests worthwhile, I encourage you to write to all parties in support of my requests. Should you have further suggestions that may assist in managing this shared pathway better, I would be interested in discussing this issue further with you.

I look forward to your positive consideration of these matters at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely



Shayne Sutton
Councillor for Morningside

20/6/12 .