

Wednesday 15 Mar 2006

CBD BUG Meeting

1pm – 2pm

BCC Library Theatrette

Meeting called by: CBD BUG	Type of meeting: CBD BUG Business
Facilitator: Paul Murdoch	Note taker: Sebastian Tauchmann

Attendees: Sebastian Tauchmann; Bruce MacGregor; Liam McCarthy; Peter Berkeley; Cameron Hall; Leslie Martin; Eric Dousi; Sharryn McConkey; Diane Sheen; Paul French; Peter Whittle; Stephanie Edwards; Lindsay Fawdry; Kate Yeomans; John Nightingale; Mark Stanley; Greg Waite; Paul Murdoch

Minutes

Agenda item: Apologies **Presenter:** Paul Murdoch

Discussion:

Apologies were received from: Elizabeth Catchpole; Ilan Ivory; Aaron Wray; Robyn Davies; Damian O'Sullivan; Katherine Braddock-Hatfield; Claire Heath; Helen Abrahams; Justin Fenton; Nigel Cox; Emma Scragg; Paul Kanowski; Steve Finnimore; Michael Langdon; David Ingram; Annie Cowling; John Hack.

Thanks for letting us know.

Agenda item: Announcements/Correspondence **Presenter:** Various

Discussion:

Cycling Rates – Long-term bike-room use study (Peter Whittle)

Peter is currently conducting a usage study on the DPI&F bike room. He aims to collect a good data set for this room and would like to extrapolate the findings to the rest of the CBD. He's still looking to recruit other bike rooms, and he's found that there is more interest in helping out once he published the first usage graph.

Both the State Government and BCC have bike use percentage targets and these usage stats can help with lobbying efforts. There is lots of variation on a daily, weekly and seasonal scale, and these variations and overall trends just can't be captured by biannual bike counts. So far, Peter's found that people tend to ride less when it's hot, cold, wet or Friday. After he collect more data, he plans to compare it to meteorological data, and perhaps with fuel prices and pay dates.

If you want to help collect data for your bike room, please contact Peter (Peter.Whittle@dpi.qld.gov.au). More data makes for a better picture of bike use trends. However, Peter recommended involvement only if it's easy to collect good data (i.e. you're not going out of your way to track the comings and goings and can do these counts Monday to Friday (inclusive).)

Qld Transport - Cromwell House (200 Mary Street) Bike Cage Opening (John Nightingale & Sebastian Tauchmann)

The opening was quite a jolly affair, and the QT Integrated Transport crowd seemed to be very happy with getting this facility up and running. It's a good example of a bike cage being retro-fitted into car parking spaces. Four showers were still in the process of being installed on opening day, but are coming along.

BQ AGM – March 23rd (Paul Murdoch)

The BQ AGM will be held in the BCC Library Theatrette starting at 6pm with guest speaker Councillor Graham Quirk. He encouraged attendance, to maximise BQ membership involvement and impress Councillor Quirk with the health and size of the cycling movement. There will be miscellaneous reports and the election of the BQ executive. Paul has proxy forms available, and encouraged BQ members unable to attend to provide a proxy to an attending member. He also strongly encouraged any CBD BUG member who is not currently a BQ member to join, and advised he had BQ membership application forms

Qld Health Workshop – April 4th (Damian O'Sullivan via Paul Murdoch)

There will be an interactive Satellite TV broadcast featuring Rod Tolley on 'Active Transport for Population Health', available from several Brisbane sites, between 9.30 and 10.30 am on Tuesday April 4.. This is part of a full-day Queensland Health Seminar on the same topic, which CBD BUG members are welcome to attend. A leaflet on both the broadcast and seminar was distributed to the meeting. Contact Damian (damian_o'sullivan@health.qld.gov.au or 3234 1312) for more details on the events or to register.

CBD Bike Centre Update (John Hack)

John sent his apologies, but hoped to be able to provide an update regarding the CBD bike centre for the next meeting.

Queensland Transport 'Smart Travel Choices' Green Paper submissions (Paul Murdoch)

Paul reported that he had received advice that submissions from young people (defined as people under 25, but age ID not required to be sighted) in regard to the Qld Gov't Travel Smart Green Paper would be accepted up until March 31st. Please contribute if you can.

Correspondence List (Paul Murdoch)

A correspondence sheet, listing all incoming and outgoing correspondence, was circulated [the blue sheet] (see attachment 1). If you would like a copy of any item, contact Paul (Paul.Murdoch@dva.gov.au). Additional email messages discussed included:

- How to make a right-hand turn from Adelaide St into Edward St without trauma, since there is a "No Right Turn" sign. There are a couple of answers: Get off and become a pedestrian, then cross with the pedestrian light, or perform a "hook turn" or "non-centre turn" (keep left on Adelaide, cross Edward to the left-most lane of Edward st, wait for the light to turn and continue along Edward). Agreed we should investigate a "Bicycles Excepted" sign request for the "No Right Turn" sign at intersection – Paul to add to list of items in outstanding letter to BCC ATU.
- @#%\$* Broken @#%\$* Glass!! It's best to give the BCC Call Centre a ring, that usually gets some good results – 3403 8888 – also any item of concern: blockages, vegetation requiring pruning, poor signage or conditions etc etc etc.
- PA Hospital is reportedly planning to put in new bike parking (along with 900 car spaces !!), but that hasn't been confirmed yet. Don't know if it will be public or staff-only or both.
- "Death by iPod" article alleges that listening to an iPod caused a cyclist to be run over by a truck in London. Some argued that an anti-iPod/walkman campaign within cycling circles should be undertaken (its bad enough the peds wearing them, but we cyclists should know better). Others argued that we shouldn't give anybody (eg Courier-Mail, Terry Sweetman, Mike O'Connor) ammunition to attack cyclists yet again. No decision reached – but make sure you ride safely and legally.
- Closure of the SE Bike Path due to Energex cabling work – raised by several members. Energex closed the path for bike week, with little to no notice (or poorly positioned signs), even before any work had started the path was required to be closed (Energex is working to lay cables from Charlotte St along the river and over to Wellington and Vulture St.) Despite BCC ATU involvement, problems reported included:
 - length of period of disruption;
 - signs that were installed couldn't be seen or read on the south side of the river;
 - Northside traffic control didn't know where the detour was, and were directing people via the Margaret St ramp (which isn't as much fun as you'd think). Energex really needs to consider bikes better than they have here: better signs, better co-ordination of traffic control people, and better liaison with the cycling community.The path is expected to reopen the week starting March 27th. Please call the Energex Call Centre (1300 762 213) to register any problems with their work, signs, path closures, etc. Main Roads manage the SE Bike Path and need to be clued in here, and make sure that the path is restored to be at least as good as it was. Letter of complaint to be sent to Energex and Main Roads re closure and lessons for future.
- reports have been received that complaints to BCC call centre and ATU have led to Story Bridge footpath

closure signs being upgraded. They're still rudimentary, but they're better than nothing.

Further discussion on the distributed correspondence list:

- Bike Tours in Asia marketing material - Paul has more detail if interested.
- Response for terms of reference for the Eastern Busway received – speaker on busway planning in general would be good.
- Deputy Mayor David Hinchliffe has responded to our email regarding the need for changes in the City Plan, and broadly supports our recommendations for change.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ If you're interested in collecting bike-room data, contact Peter Whittle.	You	Ongoing
✓ Let Paul know if you know of any CBD facilities that can be accessed by "others" (e.g. non-employees) – there's quite a number of people looking for such things.	You	Ongoing
✓ report glass, blockages and other problems to BCC call centre	You	asap (don't put it off)
✓ add issue of right-hand turns at Adelaide/Edward Streets to BCC letter	Paul Murdoch	asap
✓ report –back from the BQ AGM	Paul Murdoch	19 April (next BUG meeting)
✓ Get representative from the Qld Transport Busways as guest speaker.	Paul Murdoch	asap

Agenda item: Minutes of previous meeting & matters arising

Presenter: Various

Discussion:

BCC Active Transport Unit Bike Week Surveys (Stephanie Edwards)

13 bike way locations have been targeted for surveying, some of which will continue post-bike week. ATU is hoping for around 2000 responses. Thanks to everyone who volunteered to help out, since they couldn't have processed this many surveys without them. A report is being compiled and will hopefully be made available to the CBD BUG.

Qld Police/BCC Anti-bike-theft Initiative (Mark Stanley)

The engraving days at the Ride-to-Work day and the Great Brisbane Bike Ride went ahead, and had around 120 bikes engraved. You can go to your local police station and get your bike engraved – it will be your initials, date of birth and QLD (for Queensland). Once you register that code (via a form) your bike should be able to be returned to you if stolen and subsequently recovered.

CBD BUG Website (Sebastian Tauchmann)

Until Michael Strasser, Malcolm Brown and Justin Fenton can organise/decide on a proper website and hosting arrangement, Sebastian has put together a temporary site at members.optusnet.com.au/cbdbug. It's not particularly flash, but has links to some reference material, and it's a place to keep static material (since updating's a bit of a pain).

Conclusions:

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ provide copy of BCC ATU cyclist survey report	Stephanie Edwards	when available
✓ updating the website	Sebastian Tauchmann	ongoing
✓ engrave bicycle	you	asap

Agenda item: BUG Bike Buddy Scheme

Presenter: Paul Murdoch

Discussion:

This scheme has virtually started (initial buddy arrangement deferred owing to the experienced cyclist having an accident putting him off-bike for a while), and we have had some trial runs/enquiries. Explanatory material and guidelines have been drafted; volunteer co-ordinators identified; and the scheme can now be publicised to friends, work colleagues and any other potential commuter cyclists looking for assistance and/or advice. Requests to be emailed to cbdbug@yahoo.com.au

We expect to be able to match most requests for buddies, as we even have 8 or 9 people on the Northside (and absolutely heaps on the south, east and west sides.

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ publicise bike buddy scheme to potential riders	you	ongoing
✓ consider volunteering to act as a buddy (if not already listed)	you	asap

Agenda item: Other Items

Presenter: Various

Discussion:

Commuter Challenge (Greg Waite)

Greg located an article from Auckland, NZ on a bike vs car vs train vs bus commuter race event (see attachment 2). A similar event used to be held as part of Ride to Work Day, but that's disappeared (no-one was really sure why). Greg might take the idea to BQ – it could possibly be organised in conjunction with CBD BUG as part of bike week?. The more cynical members thought that a victory for the bicycle (which is the most likely outcome) would be used as an argument for more car space on the roads... *tsk*.

Northern Busway (Eric Dousa)

Eric raised the issue of disruption associated with construction of the Northern Busway, at Earle St (Breakfast Creek) the bike path will no longer be there, so an alternative path/route for cyclists will need to be included in the planing. It was suggested that this construction activity might be the North-South Bypass Tunnel, rather than the busway. General confusion reigned. In the general discussion following, it was suggested that if members were prepared to volunteer to act as cycling representatives, the CBD BUG could then seek to be represented on the various consultative bodies and committees established as part of the planning and construction phases of the myriad of infrastructure projects currently on the go, given our size, representativeness and importance.

Bicentennial Bikeway (Peter Whittle)

Peter asked when that accursed detour will finally be removed? Is there a reason for the long delay that is available as public knowledge and are there any lessons that BCC has taken away from this sore point?

Apparently the work is scheduled to be completed in April, 2006. (No, really.)

Action items	Person responsible	Deadline
✓ raise the proposal of a commuting challenge event with BQ	Greg Waite	next bike week
✓ consider volunteering to represent CBD BUG on consultative bodies established by BCC and/or State Government for infrastructure works – email Paul Murdoch if interested	you	asap

Agenda item: Next Meeting

Presenter: Paul Murdoch

Conclusions: Next meeting to be held on the 19th of April, BCC Library Theatre, from 1pm to 2pm.

Attachment 1

**CBD BUG
Correspondence list since February 2006 meeting**

INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE			
Date of letter	Letter received from	Subject	CBD BUG action required?
17 February 2006	Jason Williams, MD, Grasshopper Adventures [email]	Offering 5% discount to CBD BUG members on Grasshopper Adventures, bicycle tours through Asia	Note if interested
22 February 2006	Ray Rawlings, Executive Director, ITP, Queensland Transport [email]	Invitation to official opening of the Cromwell House Bike Cage	RSVP if attending; attend
22 February 2006	Bicycle Queensland [email]	Request to assist in identifying bike buddy	Match buddy with requestee
22 February 2006	Jurgen Pascieczny, Project Manager (Eastern Busway), Queensland Transport	Terms of Reference Eastern Busway	Monitor, and await advice of finalised ToRs
24 February 2006	Stephanie Edwards BCC ATU [email]	Bikeway user survey – advice to volunteers assisting during bike week	Note – follow-up request for further volunteers to assist
2 March 2006	Councillor David Hinchliffe, Deputy Mayor & Majority Leader, Brisbane City Council [email]	Bicycle parking and end-of-trip facility requirements of City Plan	Note and monitor
14 March 2006	Damian O’Sullivan, Health Promotion Unit, Queensland Health [email]	Publicity material re satellite broadcast (Rod Tolley) & active transport workshop	Note and attend if interested
OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE			
Date of letter	Letter addressed to	Subject	Action required?

Cyclists prove they're quickest

Even after a crash, Rob Hamill beats the commuter cars

by Matthew Gormley
TRANSIT REPORTER

Auckland's morning rush-hour traffic rarely dented the wily tenacity of a celebrity cyclist who has rowed across the Atlantic Ocean.

Former Olympic Rob Hamill crashed off a revolutionary reclining bike in Queen St to avoid a falling car, yet lost a field of motor vehicles to the finish line in a "commuter challenge" run by cycling advocates.

Hamill, with major grants to his leg and back disabilities, spent several minutes swapping details with the driver who cut across him late Thursday before he completed his "voyage" to finish a 12km dash from Pi Esplanade to Astor Square in just over half an hour.

He left a hybrid petrol-electric car, a truck and a bus in the dust to help a team of four cyclists emerging from different parts of Auckland to win the event in an average time of 26 minutes and 10 seconds — more than four minutes faster than the competition.

Auckland Regional Transport Authority chief executive Alan Thompson, who crossed most of the distance here in England by train in a race before 20 minutes, marvelled at how Hamill took off "like a rocket".

Set to affect the bike was a flow of four cars, one of which took five seconds across Auckland Harbour Bridge, after picking up two passengers so it could legally use the Queen St bus lane to do just a slow one-way queue of driver-only vehicles.

Honda product manager David Herwick said he stayed within the rules by taking advantage of North Shore City Council's provision to encourage efficient use of existing road space.

But bus and train users, who traded time in average times of 28m 30s and 40m 30s respectively, had to complete their journey on foot while the car drivers enjoyed privileged parking in Astor Square.

"It is an artificial situation really because commuters have to find car



KEEPING FIT: A cyclist makes his way to work after joining other riders for breakfast at Astor Square as part of the to Work Day, while transatlantic rower Rob Hamill (above) braved Auckland traffic in the commuter challenge on a reclining bike. **PHOTOS: GREG ANDREWS**

"It shows once again that the bridge is a major barrier for us, and we are increasingly frustrated at a lack of progress by Transit in carrying out a feasibility study for a walkway and cycleway"

Cycle Action Auckland chairman Brian Woodward

park," said Auckland Regional Council transport chairman Joel Cayford, who finished three minutes before Mr Hamill, after sprinting off his bus from Broadway.

Cyclists won three of the four legs and overtook cars that could have swept the field. Study Transit then

also allowed them to pedal over the harbour bridge. North Harbour Transport Club member Judy Barker had to cool her heels for about a quarter of an hour on the Harbour Bridge before cycling up Queen St to the finishing line.

"It shows once again that the bridge is a major barrier for us, and we are increasingly frustrated at a lack of progress by Transit in carrying out a feasibility study for a walkway and cycleway," said Cycle Action Auckland chairman Brian Woodward.

Transit says there is no more to be done on the bridge, and it will take until the end of the year to assess whether an extra structure can be added on to the existing "Heron" lanes.

About 400 other cyclists originated "Bike to Work Day" yesterday by joining the morning challenge contest, one in a five-day series courtesy of Auckland City Council, and similar events were held elsewhere.

ON THE WEB
rutherford.co.nz/transport

THE RACE

Eleven participants started at 7.25am, from four points of Auckland: St. Andrew Square, Cav. Bus and bike contestants travelled from all points, train passengers from west and east.

North

Start Hightway, corner Hammond Place and Brahamwood Ave

1. Car — 20mins (David Herwick, Honda marketing manager, driving Honda Jazz)
2. Bus — 26mins (Joel Cayford, Auckland Regional Council transport chair, Silverline Transport Bus)
3. Bike and ferry — 28mins (Judy Barker, Cycle Action Auckland member)

South

Start Mt Roskill shops, Duncannon Pl,

near intersection with Mt Albert Pl

1. Bike — 17mins (Joel Cayford, Auckland presenter, unaided)
2. Car — 21mins (Mark Roberts, Sustainable Business Network — driving Toyota Hybrid)
3. Bus — 26mins (Paul Liddle, Green Party MP, Stagecoach Bus)

East

Start Pt England, corner Taranaki Drive and Chisne Ave

1. Bike — 20mins (Rob Hamill — transatlantic and Olympic rower, on a reclining "row-bike")
2. Car — 24mins (Peter Nelson, Business Council for Sustainable Development — driving Honda Hybrid)
3. Train — 28mins (Joan Youngman, Auckland Regional Transport Authority chief executive)
4. Bus — 37mins (Pace Survey — Heart of the City business association, Stagecoach Bus)

West

Start New Lynn, off Torua Ave and Mervyn Drive

1. Bike — 30mins (Liam McGregor, Cycle Action Auckland member)
2. Car — 40mins (Brian Sumnerfield, TVS sport's presenter, driving Honda Hybrid)
3. Bus — 51mins (Andrew Lewis, Stagecoach official, Stagecoach bus)
4. Train — 58mins (Sally Harris, Distribution Union national secretary)

Total times

1. Bike — 107 mins (4 legs, average 26mins 15secs)
2. Car — 119 mins (4 legs, average 29mins 45secs)
3. Bus — 150 mins (4 legs, average 37mins 30secs)
4. Train — 67 mins (2 legs, average 40mins 30secs)