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MEDIA RELEASE

Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group

CBD BUG

www.cbdbug.org.au

Immediate fixes needed to address dangerous northside cycling route

A leading Brisbane cycling advocacy group has called on Brisbane City Council (BCC) and the Queensland Government to fix dangerous parts of the official cycling route for residents commuting by bike between Brisbane's north side and the city.

The Brisbane CBD Bicycle User Group (CBD BUG) has identified five priorities needing urgent attention:

1. the Bridge St, Woolloowin intersection at the old Albion Fire Station
2. McDonald Road, Albion
3. Mawarra Street, Albion
4. the bike path intersection at York's Hollow, Herston
5. the Dickson Street bike lanes, Woolloowin

Spokesperson for the CBD BUG, Mr Aaron Ball, said that "while it is really encouraging to see more people choosing to ride bikes, the existing cycling route that was supposed to connect the city to Brisbane's northern suburbs takes unwary cyclists through some really hair-raising sections."

"Some of these sections cause unnecessary conflict between people riding bikes and motorists, who are all just trying to go about their daily lives before heading home to their families."

Mr Ball cited the Bridge Street intersection as the biggest problem. "While there's lots of work to be done before we can say there's at least one safe, direct route connecting the northern suburbs to the city" he said.

"This intersection is definitely the worst problem. People riding bikes have to change lanes across fast flowing motor vehicles trying to turn left, and bike lanes completely disappear because the existing road narrows".

The intersection, on the narrow bridge crossing train lines and linking Bridge Street with Hudson Road, has been the scene of a number of crashes. In February, an elderly driver lost control of his vehicle and crashed through the fence before ending up on the train lines below.

Mr Ball also highlighted inadequate bicycle rider infrastructure on the roads leading to the intersection. "The marked cycling route takes cyclists along McDonald Road, Mawarra Street and Dickson Street, all of which are shared with heavy traffic. There are bike lanes on Dickson Street, but cars are parked there that force people on bikes back into the traffic lane or risk getting 'doored'" he said.

The CBD BUG is also calling for the off-road path at York's Hollow to be upgraded, to avoid head-on collisions between cyclists and to increase pedestrian safety.

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