



11 October 2013

MEDIA RELEASE

**Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group
CBD BUG**

www.cbdbug.org.au

Test out the upgraded Bicentennial Bikeway on National Ride2Work Day, Wednesday 16 October 2013!

Stage 3 of the upgraded Bicentennial Bikeway has been complete and open for a few months now and National Ride2Work Day is the perfect time to give it a test ride says the Brisbane Central Business District Bicycle User Group (CBD BUG).

The Bicentennial Bikeway is Queensland's busiest active transport corridor. Running along the Brisbane River and connecting the CBD to Toowong, each day it carries up to 6,500 bicycle riders and pedestrians.

People who ride bikes and pedestrians alike will be able to enjoy a continuous upgraded Bicentennial Bikeway for the 3kms from Land St Toowong to the CBD during this year's Ride 2 Work day. The upgrade not only increases the amenity of the corridor but the capacity. Until now the upgrades have been segmented with the existing sections of the old shared infrastructure constraining the benefits of the other upgraded sections. With Stage 3 open pedestrians will now enjoy a continuous river side path and cyclists a free flowing path of travel.

Stage 3 involved the construction of separated paths for pedestrians and cyclists similar to the previous upgrades and the construction of a new bridge for pedestrians. Stage 3 joins Stage 1 completed in 2009 and Stage 2 in 2010 resolving the pinch point that occurred at the former Drift Restaurant and the adjacent existing bridge. This pinch point had been a major constraint on the path's patronage.

It has been known for over a decade that the Bicentennial Bikeway was running at capacity and upgrades were desperately needed. Since upgrades to the corridor began in 2008, pedestrian and cyclist movements have jumped from 4000 in 2008 to 6500 in 2013 according to Brisbane City Council. This 65% jump in patronage not only shows that these upgrades were desperately needed but also wanted.

CBD BUG spokesperson Donald Campbell said "I fully expect patronage to increase again as people become aware that the Bicentennial Bikeway has undergone further upgrades. The Bicentennial is heavily used during peak hour and this upgrade was desperately needed. It is now a three kilometres of continuous segregated path. There is no better time to test it out than during this year's National Ride2Work Day because, the amenity of the path has been vastly improved resulting in a quick and stress free ride into the CBD!"

With the added capacity that the completion of Stage 3 provides, the Bicentennial Bikeway has the potential for thousands of extra pedestrian and bicycle rider movements to be safely and easily accommodated each day. The results are reduced pressure on the already heavily congested Coronation drive and Milton road as well as packed peak hour bus and train services. It will also mean that in most cases it will be quicker, cheaper and easier to travel to the CBD by bike than it will be by car or public transport. Benefit everyone will enjoy when they give it a go.

Ends