

The section connecting from O'Connell Terrace to the Victoria Park bikeway is also still expected to go ahead. Current indications are that the Royal National Association is not agreeable to the bike path going through its grounds, so the path is likely to go along the edge of the remaining section of Bowen Park.

Guest speaker

Presenter: Mr Joshua Forrest

Topics: Opinions of bike share schemes

Mr Forrest is conducting research for an Honours thesis. Mr Forrest is researching the relationship between public opinion of bike share schemes and the use of the schemes, and exploring how adverse opinions can be changed. Mr Forrest led a discussion to obtain members' general views on Brisbane's CityCycle bike share scheme. Some of the views expressed by members were that CityCycle:

- solves the 'last mile' issue, providing a link between limited public transport options and destinations;
- provides some real or perceived security for users e.g. less likely to be accosted while riding compared to walking, and movement through 'dangerous' areas can be quicker;
- allows non-cyclists to experience cycling, with users going on to obtaining and using their own bikes; and
- provides transport for international students who cannot afford public transport.

Members questioned commonly implied definitions of success, pointing out that while sheer usage numbers might still be lower than targets, the CityCycle scheme as a whole still provides significant benefits for Brisbane.

Some of the hindrances to the success of City Cycle identified by members were:

- a lack of stations in the most convenient locations, for example no station at Central railway station, many stations 50 metres or more away from likely destinations;
- a lack of on-road space within the CBD for cyclists;
- registration requirements that deter the casual user;
- poor redistribution of bikes across the network during the day;
- closure of the scheme between 10pm and 5am;
- no corporate memberships available;
- many restrictions on use, e.g. not to be ridden in the rain, no riders under 17 years old;
- the scheme is a highly political issue, vulnerable to use by opposing political parties for political point scoring;
- not supported by local media e.g. Courier Mail and The Independent;
- free period of use limited to half an hour; and
- removal of bikes during large events.

Some members also expressed a view that mandatory helmet laws reduced casual use, and reinforced an underlying view that cycling was dangerous in the CBD. However some other members were of the view that helmets were necessary and required by law, and should therefore be excluded from any research about opinions

Other Business

CBD BUG cycling jerseys

Mr John Lister updated members about enquiries made with potential suppliers for cycling jerseys. Mr Lister circulated patterns and details of two potential providers: Tinei Performance Bikewear and Body Torque.

Mr Lister advised that prices were similar from both providers at approximately \$100 per jersey, however for this price the Body Torque product included reflective strips and a zippered rear pocket. Meeting consensus supported purchase from Body Torque.

Mr Lister also advised that at least 10 members needed to commit to purchasing before an order could be made, and delivery would be 4 to 6 weeks from the date of order.

Action Items	Who	Deadline
✓ Contact John Lister to register interest in purchasing a jersey. john@cdbdbug.org.au	Interested members	ASAP

Pushies Galore

Mr French reminded members that Pushies Galore, a swap, sell and show event for all cyclists was being organised again on 14 and 15 July 2012 at the Holland Park Bowls Club. The organiser is Mr Gavin Bannerman, a Brisbane cycling historian, photographer and CBD BUG member.

Next meeting

General Meeting

Wednesday 30 May 2012, 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm.

With the exception of the 27 June and 19 December meetings, which will be in the Community Meeting Room (due to school holiday activities), all meetings during 2012 will be in the Tiered Theatre, Brisbane Square.