



OFFICE OF THE
LORD MAYOR
Brisbane

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28 September 2015

Mr Andrew Methorst
Co-convenor
Brisbane North BUG
convenorsnorthbug@gmail.com

Dear Mr Methorst

Thank you for your letter of 2 September 2015 about cyclist safety along Bridge and Dickson Streets, Albion. I appreciate you taking the time to raise your concerns on behalf of your members.

Like you, I want roads across Brisbane to be as safe as possible for all users. I asked Mr Anthony Holloway from Council's Transport Planning and Strategy branch to investigate and I understand Mr Holloway spoke with you on 9 September.

As you will be aware, Council is a strong supporter of cycling to ease congestion and promote an active and healthy lifestyle. Council recognises that this section is a critical corridor for many of your members. That is why we have installed significant enhancements to improve the safety of cyclists using this route. Shared bike lane and parking lanes have been installed along Dickson Street, with some sections reduced to bicycle only. Intersections have been treated with green priority pavement markings to alert drivers that cyclists may be present on the road. Warning signs and other pavement warnings have also been installed to encourage motorists to take care along this road.

While I appreciate your desire for further enhancements, it is worth noting that this road will form part of the North Brisbane Bikeway (NBB), being delivered by the Queensland Government's Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR). Council considers it to be important to minimise the number of short term changes to the road environment before the NBB is delivered. Ultimately, the DTMR is responsible for the construction along Dickson Street. Further information can be found on their website www.dtmr.qld.gov.au and searching "North Brisbane Bikeway".

I note Brisbane North BUG's support for the recent petition to reduce the speed limit along Dickson Street to 40km/h. I can advise that the petition has been investigated and was considered by Council at its meeting held on 15 September. Dickson Street is classified as a Suburban Route within the Brisbane Road Hierarchy Plan. These routes connect arterial routes in and around suburbs and are important public transport and inter-suburban freight links. The Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices, set by the Queensland Government, establishes the minimum speed for such roads to be 60km/h. As such, Council was unable to support the proposal of reducing the speed limit in Dickson Street at this time.

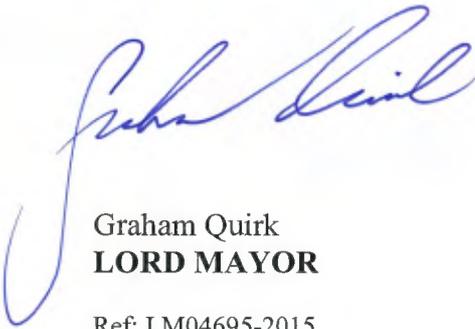
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As you know, the Queensland Road Rules require motorists to provide a minimum distance of one metre when passing cyclists. Speeding or failing to provide the minimum clearance is considered poor driver behaviour and are best handled by enforcement of the Queensland Road Rules. I would encourage you and your members to report this to the Police via the PoliceLink Service on 131 444.

While I appreciate this may not be the outcome you and your members were hoping for, I am sure that we can continue to work together to improve safety along this section while the NBB is completed. If you would like any further information please contact Mr Holloway on 3403 8888

Thank you for contacting me.

Yours sincerely



Graham Quirk
LORD MAYOR
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