



2 September 2015

Bridge St/Dickson Street – Immediate Safety Concerns, request for action

Lord Mayor Graham Quirk
CC Cr David McLachlan

My Dear Lord Mayor,

Recent traffic changes on Hudson and Bridge Street at Albion have changed the traffic flow along Dickson Street. In particular, the Brisbane North Bicycle User Group (BN BUG) has noted the increased speed that cars travel along Dickson St. Due to the design as well as unsafe and illegal behaviour of people driving in that section of road, motor vehicles are constantly cutting into and out of the bike lanes on both sides of the road. This behaviour is illustrated in the photograph below (looking south along Bridge St at the intersection of Wride St).



Video of this is also available via this YouTube link <https://youtu.be/EsYDD1z8QFM>

Phone calls by our BN BUG co-conveners to the Brisbane City Council (BCC) have highlighted the fact the BCC believe the road design is in accordance with specifications and that reported accidents between people riding bicycles and cars are low. Also, that as the Department of Main Roads (TMR) will *eventually* be doing work along this route as part of the North Brisbane Bikeway that the BCC believes no remediation work should be undertaken.

The BN BUG strongly believes that this situation is unacceptable as people's lives are in danger, it is only a matter of time before there is a serious injury or worse along this road corridor. This point is further validated by an incident on Tuesday 1 September when a person riding a bicycle was hit by a car in Dickson Street. Qld Ambulance twitter link <https://twitter.com/qldambulance/status/638494777365954560>

BN BUG would like to work with BCC to prevent accidents along this key bicycle corridor.

This situation can easily be remedied in the short term by two solutions.

1. Reduce the speed limit on this neighbourhood street to 40 Kph.

This will increase safety and is supported by local residents. Refer to recent petition by local residents <http://www.epetitions.brisbane.qld.gov.au/petition/view/pid/271>

2. Install raised curbs along the edge of the bike lane at the intersection of Wride St

Recently the intersection of Gympie Road/Kedron Park Road (city bound direction) had raised curbs installed to prevent cars from cutting across or into the bike lane. A similar detail could be installed in this location at minimal cost. Physical separation is the safest option and is a cost effective solution in the short term.

A photograph of the raised curbs in question at Kedron is shown below.



Ultimately the BN BUG believes the bike lane and footpath should be reconfigured away from the traffic lane in this section as per the picture below (looking south along Dickson St). The green section is the bike lane, the pink section is modified footpath.



The BN BUG co-conveners believe that the BCC should as a minimum follow our two suggestions to improve safety in the short term. The BN BUG is willing to work with the BCC to help improve safety for everyone and we are willing to meet with the Brisbane City Council to help make this happen.

Regards

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Andrew Methorst
BN BUG Co-Convener
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