

Submission to CoM

Submission by Metro East Bicycle user Group (MeBUG)
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Metro East Bicycle User Group Inc urges the councillors of the City of Melbourne to continue their good work in establishing safe bike lanes in the CBD. We are a cycling advocacy group with members who travel to the city area quite frequently.

We know from reading the research that more people will ride bikes if they feel safe. This has benefits such as reducing pollution and congestion.

There are also principles of fairness and equity.. Bike users use much less space than cars (by a factor of at least 5) and trucks; they are more vulnerable to harm from such vehicles; and their needs should not be subverted to the power of a car or delivery lobby. Cycling trips are shorter and more likely to have a CBD destination than much of the car traffic.

Active transport and specifically cycling, generates benefits for the entire community including avoiding pollution and greenhouse gas emission, promoting mental and physical health, thus reducing burdens on the health system and reducing the huge cost of car parking, both on street (loss of road capacity) and purpose built multi story carparks (which displace opportunities for housing and other productive benefits).

The City of Melbourne's protected bike lane program is a commendable initiative consistent with similar developments in many major cities around the world. Please do not pause or wind back this program

Michael Hassett
Secretary
5 June 2022