

18 January 2021

Hon. Corey WINGARD MP Minister for Infrastructure and Transport GPO Box 668 Adelaide SA 5001

# Re: "BRIDGE TO TAKE CYCLISTS SAFELY OVER TOP OF GOODWOOD TRAIN STATION"

Dear Minister Wingard,

On behalf of the Unley Bicycle User Group, I am writing to you to request reconsideration of the decision by the previous Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, the Hon. Stephan Knoll, to put the construction of the Goodwood pedestrian and cycling overpass on hold indefinitely.



The Unley Bicycle User Group members are of the view that the bridge is an important strategic investment into transport infrastructure that will:

- Improve the safety of cyclists currently using the Mike Turtur Bikeway.
- Improve safety and access for east/west pedestrian movement
- Improve access to the Goodwood Station for public transport users
- Improve attractiveness and safety of Goodwood Station to foster public transport patronage
- Increase the use of the Mike Turtur Bikeway as it will be perceived as a safer way to navigate the Bikeway in its entirety (safety is a common impediment to more people cycling).
- Reduce congestion and commuting times for cyclists.
- Reduce car congestion on roads through the increase of cyclists using the Bikeway
- Contribute to a complete and safe bikeway that contributes to the cycling culture of South Australia.

As with the other South Australian infrastructure projects, both planned and in progress, the Goodwood overpass is another important project that will deliver economic stimulus in the post COVID environment and send the community a signal from the Government that cycling is a major mode of transport. The project will be a well-accepted initiative by the community and will deliver the associated environmental and personal benefits of cycling important to South Australians.



The Department of Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) website states the following: 1

## "Mike Turtur Bikeway

The Mike Turtur Bikeway is the busiest cycling commuter route in Adelaide. The route is substantially completed; however, key sections are being upgraded to make it more convenient to use and cope with increased usage.

## **New Goodwood overpass**

**Status**: Detailed design underway

Stage 2 of the Goodwood and Torrens Rail Junction Project is planned to feature the construction of a new pedestrian and cycling overpass at Goodwood to complete the Mike Turtur Bikeway.

Currently, people using the busiest bikeway in Adelaide have to travel out of direction to cross the Seaford rail line via the level crossing at Victoria Street or by dismounting and walking through the narrow subway under the station."

Figure 1 DIT Website

The overpass was announced in May 2016 and was to be completed by 2017, refer **"\$10m bridge to take cyclists safely over top of Goodwood train station"** attached, which includes the quote below:

'The spokeswoman said the bridge would "remove the last major impediment" for people using the bikeway that runs next to the tramline from the CBD to Glenelg'

# However, in recent times the project was put on hold indefinitely:



#### Goodwood cycling bridge shelved

A proposed bridge for cyclists and pedestrians at Goodwood railway station is "on hold indefinitely" after cost estimates nearly tripled to \$28 million.

Figure 2 The Advertiser 29/10/2019

The DIT analysis indicates that the Mike Turtur Bikeway is the busiest cycling commuter route in Adelaide and the current need to use the level crossing at Victoria Street or to use the subway is "the last major

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.dpti.sa.gov.au/infrastructure/major\_projects/greenways\_project/greenways\_project/mike\_turtur\_bikeway



impediment" for cyclists using the Bikeway. Use of the Victoria Street crossing when travelling west there is a requirement to cross and recross Victoria Street and potentially with traffic in both directions. Using the narrow subway is also hazardous, particularly for younger and older cyclists, due to the steep descent and ascent which then also creates hazards for pedestrians. As the busiest cycle route in Adelaide, completion of this cycling infrastructure is important for the many people using this active travel route.

With the existing Government focus on infrastructure development to stimulate economic recovery, the Unley Bicycle User Group request that further consideration be given to completing the Mike Turtur Bikeway by creating a pedestrian and cycling overpass at Goodwood, supporting the Government credentials of furthering the South Australian cycling culture.

Yours sincerely

Dr David Sutton

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Chair, Unley Bicycle User Group

cc. Hon. David Pisoni, MP Ms Jayne Stinson MP Mayor Michael Hewitson Mr Peter Tsokas CEO Cr Nicole Sheehan

Cr Emma Wright

Cr Sue Dewing

Cr Jane Russo

Cr Jennie Boisvert

Cr Don Palmer

Cr Jordan Dodd

Cr Peter Hughes

Cr Kay Anastassiadis

Cr Jennifer Bonham

Cr Monica Broniecki

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# \$10m bridge to take cyclists safely over top of Goodwood train station

A BRIDGE will be built over a train line in Adelaide's inner south to improve safety for cyclists using the city's busiest bikeway. Take a look.

## Dan Jervis-Bardy

May 16, 2016 - 2:04PM Eastern Courier Messenger





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An artist's impression of the planned \$10m walking and cycling bridge over Goodwood station. Picture: Supplied

A BRIDGE will be built over the train line at Goodwood to improve safety for cyclists using Adelaide's busiest bikeway.

The state and federal governments last week announced plans to build a pedestrian and cycling bridge over the Goodwood train station.

It would connect the Mike Turtur Bikeway from Railway Tce North, in Goodwood, to Norman Tce, Forestville.

A state Transport Department spokeswoman said the project would cost about \$10 million, and would include work to "improve Goodwood station access for patrons".

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The spokeswoman said the bridge would "remove the last major impediment" for people using the bikeway that runs next to the tramline from the CBD to Glenelg,

More than 1000 people use the route every day, making it Adelaide's most popular cycling route, according to the department.

"(The bridge) will enable large numbers of cyclists to bypass local roads and avoid the ... level crossing at Victoria St," the spokeswoman said.

Work was expected to start next year and be completed before the end of 2017, she said.

Goodwood ward councillor Bob Schnell said the bridge would be "fantastic" for cyclists.

Cr Schnell also welcomed plans to improve the access the train station.

"At present it is terribly unsafe and I would not want to walk around there at night," Cr Schnell said.

Funds for the Goodwood station bridge were included in \$442 million announced last week for the Torrens Junction upgrade.

The State Government has committed \$232 million towards the project, while the Federal Government has pledged \$211 million.

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