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## **Diverse transport systems are healthy transport systems**

05/04/2018

Hon. Stephan Knoll  
Minister for Transport, Infrastructure, and Local Government  
Minister for Planning  
GPO BOX 1533, Adelaide, SA, 5001

Dear Minister,

The Bicycle Institute of SA (BISA) congratulates you on your appointment as Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, and Minister for Planning. What a privilege to lead such an important portfolio.

We take this opportunity to introduce you to BISA. We would value an opportunity to meet with you to discuss the future of Active Transport within South Australia's transport system. By extension this would also touch on key aspects of the State's economic, social and environmental health as well.

BISA is a community-based advocacy organisation for bike riders with a focus on transport cycling. We also have broader interests in walking, public transport and related mobility issues within the general envelop of Active Transport. Our aim is to encourage all levels of government to create and implement effective cycling policy that delivers safe, direct, connected and pleasant routes, to support existing as well as new riders and bicycle use. You can see aspects of our work at <https://bicycleinstitutesa.com/advocacy/>. As a 'peak body' in SA, BISA has been a key player in supporting the work of the many local bicycle user groups (or BUGs) working directly with local government and local communities.

The evidence-base clearly identifies cycling as an integral transport mode and mobility choice in any healthy transport system. Unfortunately, many South Australians - including most children – have been deprived of this choice simply through inequitable levels of investment and planning effort. Under the previous Labor Government, development of a cycling network for Adelaide was significantly underfunded, receiving less than 1% of the transport budget each year or \$0.6 per capita. To put this in perspective the United Nations is recommending countries allocate 20% of the transport budget to the development and maintenance of cycling infrastructure. BISA is calling for a more modest 5% allocation, and for the development of a clear and practical strategy or plan to continue the development of South Australia's urban and regional cycling networks. We would also call for a clear and focussed Active Transport policy to support this budget allocation and cycling's integration into the overall transport system across Adelaide and across the State.

We are excited by the opportunities a new Government and new Minister provide and take this opportunity to request a meeting to discuss these and other related cycling issues with you. Our organisation values and promotes open considered, evidence-based policy decisions. We offer a range of practical perspectives with regard to cycle planning with all members being regular day-to-day bicycle users. We are committed to bicycle use as a healthy, efficient, environmentally friendly, and enjoyable way to travel.

**Some of the key issues we'd like to raise and possibly discuss with you would include:**

- Future policy directions: What policies will your Government implement to support Active Transport development in South Australia
- A Safe Bike Network: How will your Government plan, fund and build a bicycle network that is appropriate, safe and secure for all South Australians? When will your Government provide South Australians with a renewed vision for the State's Bike Network? When will we see a renewed SA Bike Plan? As published in the Department's Friday note on March 18, under the achievements "Enhanced Liveability and Connectivity" a draft Cycling Strategy was developed in recent years under a Labor Government. However, the strategy was never released to the public despite repeated guarantees. We ask: where is this strategy sitting and will your Government respect the cycling community in the State and after review with interested stakeholders, update, release and implement this strategy?
- Electric bikes: What is their future in SA & what will the Government do to support their developing use?
- Cycling and rural roads: On rural highways a paved shoulder makes all the difference. How and to what extent will your Government support the continuing roll-out of a paved shoulder highway program in conjunction with rural road improvements?
- Integrating cycling into DPTI projects: How and to what extent does your Government intend the integration of bicycle use into public transport access and use, and into road upgrades (including where new roads will disrupt existing bike routes)?
- New Greenways: there are many opportunities for new Greenway routes across Adelaide. How will your Government ensure that Adelaide's Greenway Network continues to develop and grow in both connectivity and continuity?
- City Bikeways funding and steps to completion: Will your Government ensure Adelaide City Council meet their contractual commitments to deliver an East-West Bike Way? A contract has been signed, funding committed and promises made but elected Councillors continue to delay. There is significant support in the cycling community for this project. Currently no safe route exists for cyclists to travel into the city from the East/west direction.
- Mike Turtur Bikeway Bridge over the railway line at the Goodwood Railway station: Will the transport Department, under your leadership, deliver this critical infrastructure project? Federal Funding for the project remains unspent; this is an opportunity to deliver a significant improvement to cycling infrastructure with Federal Government assistance. A recent Advertiser article advised that the Department was expected to finalise purchasing a property to allow the bridge construction to start in the next month. Has this purchase occurred and will project construction begin shortly?
- Gawler Greenway Bicycle route: what is your Government's program for completion of this partially completed Greenway?

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kind regards

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