

**MASSBUG
DRAFT MINUTES
MEETING OF 7 JULY 2004**

Attendance: Amy, Ian, Paul, Al, Chris, Fiona, Robert, Elaine, Bruce, Brenda

1. Local Issues

Entrance to Little Everleigh St from Wilson St: reflective tape placed on bollards. Local residents have asked RTA to clearly mark bike access route.

Meeting noted that Botany Council continues to be unresponsive to cycling issues, including problems on Gardiners road/Rickety rd bridge.

2. Marrickville Council

Council Draft Management Plan has allocated funding for a transport planner and a bike plan.

Last meeting with Council: the engineering Dept advised of engineering work that is planned for the current financial year. Paul provided useful map with marked locations. Suggestion that the sites be reviewed on a ride in the near future. Particularly as the work undertaken can vary from what is on the plans. Holbeach Ave is thought to be a priority.

Included in the changes are several street closures and traffic calming measures. No specific dates but work should be done this financial year.

Noted that the design engineer has requested advice regarding Cardigan Street and hope this is an indication of improved relationship with Council.

Members are asked to note the work at locations close to where they live so they can provide advice at the next meeting.

The Council thanked MASSBUG for the comprehensive submission on the draft management plan.

People with disabilities living in Marrickville interested in joining a direct action 'Access First' should contact Paul Campbell.

3. City of Sydney

Oxford St

Although work has commenced on engineering changes, the design is under an internal review by the Council. Staff reviewing the design are experiencing difficulties finding their way in the dispute about the design. Meeting arranged for last Thursday was cancelled by Mayor.

Discussion about design given this political climate raised several issues:

- Car parking out of peak hours is a major problem in designing a safe path for cyclists.
- Design by Bruce provides bus bays which allows for passing buses safely
- Joint use of bus lane may be safer as a cyclist can move to the footpath to escape hazards if necessary, there is nowhere to move to safety in current plan
- That the current plan puts cyclists at risk and members are concerned about endorsing a plan which creates a false sense of security for inexperienced cyclists.
- The best option is for a separate path which is next to footpath
- There is concern over the joint use of bus lanes as it places individual cars as a priority over public transport
- Flexibility should be built into the plan to allow for future changes such as light rail
- Whatever is done, should not be worse than doing nothing.

Cross City Tunnel

RTA are have engaged consultants to work on two outstanding design issues, on William St and Oxford St.

4. South Sydney bike plan

Some of the low cost changes have been implemented such as logos and signs. Consultants have been engaged to design the Wilson St contra flow. Discussion on this issue raised the following points:

- A broken low cement barrier along the bike lane is likely to be a hazard for cyclists
- The standard is to have a 1.2m high barrier, but this may reduce access for pedestrians
- It is possible that a vibra strip would be safer
- That the lane could start at 1.4 meters but could reduce to 1 m.

Fiona will organise a ride to inspect sites.

5. Greenway

Bruce reported that Ashfield and Marrickville have included a budget item for the Master plan. The next task will be to include cycle paths in the Council bike plan.

6. Hazard Report

Please start using the report to log real hazards – report now in live trial. The hazard can be in any local area.

7. Promotion

Proposal that MASSBUG include logo and details on BNSW merchandise in the future.

Bruce and Ian visited Ferncourt School for a 'Wheels Day', school will make a donation to MASSBUG.

CALD Groups

Discussion about reaching local ethnic groups using SBS radio. Suggestion that we find cyclists who speak a community language to speak about general issues about cycling in the local area.

Newtown Festival

Volunteers needed to develop ideas for stall.

8. Rides

Please see website calendar.

12 September Discovery ride with RPA staff to practice routes to work.

BURST BUG launch 27 July, 7-9pm, 1B Bates St, Homebush, Strathfield community Centre. See www.burstbug.org

Ashfield ride, 17 July 4.30 pm

5 September, to Kurnell

29 July, launch of Cycling around Sydney by Bruce, at Tea in the Library coffee shop, York St, near QVB

Saddle survey 25 July