

Marrickville South Sydney Bike Group
Meeting 6 July 2005
Minutes

Attendance: Brenda (minutes) Paul (Chair), Fiona, Bruce, Jenny, Chris, Ian, Paul, Robert, and Gilbert.

1. Local Issues

Paul will investigate taking responsibility for updating the section of the website on local issues.

2. Media

Sydney Morning Herald included photo-story in today's issue.

Action: investigate purchase of copies of photographs for volunteers taking part in photo session and request proof sheet of photographs not used.

Inner West Courier interviewed Fiona for item on changes to use of bus lanes.

We receive phone calls and email enquiries on a regular basis about rides and maps. Hits to the web page have returned to February levels, but this is still twice as many as the same time last year.

Flyers for rides are available for distribution. Contact Brenda if you would like copies.

Actions: Media release on July ride to be sent to Inner West Courier. Also provide fact sheet and additional information on cycling.

Push on deadline 25 July – general item about Marrickville Council support for cycling with the appointment of consultants to work on the bike plan, and involving MASSBUG.

Write to Wilderness Society – advise on services MASSBUG can provide to support alternative transport

T-Shirts

An estimated cost of 50 T-shirts, with printing on both sides is around \$1000. Members were in agreement that this should be investigated. Members would need to pay for shirts, estimated cost is \$20 per shirt. The front of the shirt will have the logo and slogan 'burn fat not fuel' or 'one less car'. The back will have the website address and a bike symbol.

Suggestions for payment would be to include an offer in the next renewal notice, giving people a shirt plus 12 month membership for \$25. Shirts could also be sold at stalls and rides.

Actions: Seek further advice about purchasing cheaper shirts.
Find a volunteer designer to create the artwork.
Obtain sample shirts.

3. Events

20 July 6.30pm, Marrickville Council session for clubs on planning, call 9335 2143 for details

24 July – ride to the city around the harbour and return via Pyrmont

30 July – technical assessment from Temp to Strathfield

6 August – Ride for Trikes and trailers, to show practical and multiple uses of bikes

13 August 2-4pm – Bike Sydney, public forum for council and staff, hear about Bike Sydney and plans for Sydney

Action: note to Riverlife Program congratulating them on the ride held on 2 July.

4. Marrickville Bike planning

Bruce raised the issue of the Marrickville Bike Plan and the immediate priority to develop a "big picture" or strategic approach to best achieve the plan aims and objectives, prior to developing the detail engineering solutions. There was then general discussion on what this would entail, how to develop such a strategic approach and to canvas innovative ideas. There was general consensus that this bigger picture needed to be sorted out before locking into any particular works or implementation, and that this could be dealt with by having a workshop session with ideally an outside facilitator (but someone who understood the issues).

Actions: interested members, Transport Planner from Marrickville Council, consultants, invited experts if available (such as Rod Katz) to meet for a two hour (facilitated) workshop, to reach agreement on the most appropriate strategy to achieve plan aims/objective/outcomes. This may reach beyond the immediate implementation of a bike plan and route(s).

Fiona: to approach Al Rylatt to facilitate session

Bruce: to arrange a date/venue with Kendall/consultant. Possible dates are 23 July, 30 July, 16 July, and to develop list of principles/questions for workshop.

5. Technical assessments

Ian, Gilbert, Paul, Fiona and Bruce are taking part in the technical assessments of cycle routes. The general experience so far has been that the route is not obvious, there is very poor signage and the routes are not direct or linked effectively.

Paul has the technical sheet on a word document if anyone would find it useful to type his or her notes.

6. Relationship with police

Fiona has drafted a letter to the local service requesting a meeting to discuss how MASSBUG can work together to reduce road rage, particularly noting recent accidents with cyclists.

Suggestions that could be taken to police and discussed at future meetings included: setting up mini-conferences with car drivers and cyclists, asking plain clothes police cyclists to visit 'hot spots', appointing a police liaison officer, members noting and collating incidences of road rage, invite a police representative to a MASSBUG meeting, involving neighbourhood watch.

Action: Fiona to revise letter and send. Chris and Fiona to meet with police.

Other Business

- ❖ A reminder that the group needs members to do first aid training.
- ❖ Bike-It is in draft form and should go to relevant BUGS for comment shortly.
- ❖ ABC programs – members are asked to go to the ABC site and suggest a program on cycling.
- ❖ COSTA Stress ball by Eco Transit, members can purchase balls at future meetings.

Next meeting: **Wednesday 3 August**