

Minutes

City of Yarra Bicycle Advisory Committee

11 April 2018

Collingwood Town Hall, 6.30–8.00pm

Wurundjeri Room

Attendees: Bruce Echberg, Uyen Tran, Michael Bond, Chris Star, Chirag Safi, Steve Barnett, Troy Parsons, Julian Wearne, Peter Eckersley, Marcus Coghlan, Cr Jackie Fristacky, Chair: Cr Mike McEvoy

1. Acknowledgement to Country

2. Coppin St/Safe Schools

Traffic counts from Council show that there are between 7000 to 8000 vehicles that use Coppin Street each day, with the majority going in the southbound direction. Initial thoughts to improve cycling were for separated bike lanes on either side of Coppin Street but this would have a significant impact on residential on-street parking. From past experience, community support is essential and consultation with local residents will be need to be done in order to gain it. Since it is a collector road, VicRoads' opinion should be sought especially if there are any changes to the intersections with Bridge Road and Swan Street.

Options discussed included:

- Mid-block closure at Wall Street so local traffic and residential parking are not impacted upon; although Mary and Lord streets will be affected
- Bi-directional cycleway on the western side and one-way southbound car lane on the eastern side so that through-traffic diverts to Burnley and Church streets
 - o Removal of car parking on one side of the street to allow for a bi-directional bike lane, and inclusion of car parking in the centre of the road.

It was agreed that multiple options could be developed in coordination with BAC before presenting them to the community. Council could lead consultation with local residents; high school staff, parents, and children; and other stakeholders. Past experience on community engagement has shown that on-site street meetings have been effective as well letter box dropping and social media.

ACTION: Cr McEvoy will investigate how to proceed with Coppin Street and discuss options at the next BAC meeting.

3. Canning/Richardson Intersection

Council has received TAC Blackspot funding to study and make recommendations to improve the Canning/Richardson intersection where there has been 22 cyclist crashes over the last 5 years.

Traffic counts and speed data have recently been collected by the consultants. It was found that there are no patterns of excessive speeds by either cars or bikes and that far more bikes travel north-south than vehicles go east-west through the intersection. The key issue is that east-west motorists fail to fully stop at the second 'Stop' sign when they pass through the intersection. In other terms, east-west and right-turning drivers do not take the time or care to look for bike riders so a new design must take this factor into consideration as well as maintain the movements of buses through the intersection.

It was identified that the Pigdon/Canning C-roundabout with speed humps on the east and west approaches as well as the Drummond/Newry intersection in Carlton North were good examples that are currently working well for both cars and bikes. Protected intersections and roundabouts like in the Netherlands are also best practice. In addition, radial C-roundabouts with zebra crossings on each side are effectively used in the USA.

It was agreed that tangential roundabouts do not slow drivers down but irregular shaped roundabouts increase driver awareness of other street users and slow them down. The preference for all roundabouts was for bike riders to share the road space with motorists rather than have a dedicated lane.

The timeline for the Blackspot study is to complete the analysis and carry out consultation with stakeholders by June 30. TAC grants will open in August and Council will aim to deliver works pending funding in the 2018/19 financial year. It was noted that the new design will need to be integrated into the possible Canning bike boulevard which will be part of the upcoming Melbourne Water works.

ACTION: BAC members may email Council's project manager, Uyen Tran, with suggestions and observations on the intersection at uyen.tran@yarracity.vic.gov.au.

4. Canning Street Updates

Upon request from BAC, Peter investigated the possibility of replacing some 'Give Way' signs on Canning Street but found that they do not meet the warrants as per Austroads standards.

A small group of BAC members recently went on a site visit with Peter and Cr Fristacky to investigate opportunities to improve cycling conditions. The concept for moving the bike lane from the centre of the carriageway to the median side with a protection separator was supported. A number of opportunities for pedestrian crossings and raised threshold treatments on side streets were also identified.

Peter is currently considering the possibility of a Dutch-style bike boulevard given the low traffic volumes and current behaviour of commuter cyclists on Canning Street. The bike boulevard may entail coloured/pigmented asphalt surfacing, sinusoidal speed humps and bike symbols with the possible lowering of speed limits to 30 km/h.

5. Car parking and Bike lanes

Marcus raised concerns about the prioritisation of on-street parking over cycling infrastructure as well as poor road design standards on some streets around the Council area.

ACTION: BAC members may email Peter at peter.eckersley@yarracity.vic.gov.au with possible opportunities to remove or modify car parking. He will investigate them on a case-by-case basis and work to change the parking zones through external consultation and internal processes.

6. Dockless Share Bike Parking

The delegates report was presented to Council on Tuesday the 10th of April in which the BAC report on Dockless Bike Share was referred to the CEO and officers for consideration in reviewing the current MOU on Dockless Bike Share and for the execution of any future MOUs on this matter.

7. Gipps/Hoddle Intersection

A new design for the Gipps/Hoddle intersection on the western side is currently being developed which will need approval from VicRoads and funding in Council's 2018/19 Budget.

Next BAC meeting: Wednesday the 20th of June at 6.30pm in the Wurundjeri Room at Collingwood Town Hall

Delegates Report



This Delegates Report is presented for Council's consideration under the provisions of clauses 63 and 65 of the Yarra City Council Meeting Procedures Local Law 2011.

Committee	Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC)
Appointed Councillors	Cr Mike McEvoy, Cr Jackie Fristacky
Date of Council Meeting	10 th April 2018
Date of Report	BAC meeting held on 14 th March 2018
Report Author	Cr Mike McEvoy

The BAC met on Wednesday 14th March and discussed many current bicycle infrastructure matters. Two items of particular note were;

- a BAC subcommittee report on dockless bike share and concerns about Yarra Council's response.
- The Yarra Transport Policy workshop held in February.

Dockless Bike Share

In a 2017 BAC meeting some concerns were raised about Council's response to the emergence of dockless share bikes, specifically:

- Yarra's regulatory approach doesn't adequately support and promote bike share and cycling within the municipality,
- The current approach has produced clutter on local streets and a negative image of cyclists.
- There was disappointment that dedicated parking areas were not provided.

A subcommittee produced the attached report and it was endorsed by BAC on 14th march. The report proposes an approach that seeks to legitimise dockless bike share through the proposed provision of dedicated spaces in 12 strategic locations around the Council area.

The report says;

“The City of Yarra can benefit by offer some simple provisions to help accommodate dockless bike share systems into our transportation mix. Just as City of Yarra provides priority parking to car share operators, we need to do the same for bike share operators. The same benefits apply:

- *Visible demonstration of prioritizing bicycle transport*
- *Improved accessibility of bicycle users*
- *Keeps footpaths uncluttered, since share bikes are not supposed to be parked in bike hoops or the footpath.”*

It was noted that Council is in the process of negotiation with other bike share operators. BAC encourages Council to consider their proposal.

Planning Scheme Subgroup

A Yarra Transport Policy workshop was held on Tuesday the 27th of February 2018. Several members of BAC attended.

The purpose of the workshop was to:

- To inform and update BAC and the Liveable Yarra Reference Group of the Yarra Planning Scheme (YPS) project
- To present and check with the groups on transport issues in Yarra
- To test out emerging Transport Policy objectives and strategies proposed for the YPS.

The BAC noted the success of the workshop and acknowledged the value of the opportunity to contribute.

PROPOSED MOTION

1. That:
 - (a) Council note the Delegates’ Report.