

23 March 2021

The Minister for Transport and Main Roads  
The Hon Mark Bailey MP.

Via email: [minister@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:minister@tmr.qld.gov.au)

Dear Minister

Thanks for your commitment to prioritising active transport as part of Queensland's transport systems. We commend your commitment to building the Principal Cycle Network in Queensland, and to ensuring that the Cycling Infrastructure Policy remains an important plank in the policy platform for Transport and Main Roads.

Bicycle Queensland and the metropolitan area bicycle user groups write to you with a request to liberalise one aspect of the rules governing our transport system.

Bicycle riders using Queensland Rail's CityTrain network are presently prohibited from taking their bikes on the train during the most important times for travelling to work (morning and afternoon peak). This can pose a real headache if you suffer a mechanical issue on your journey to or from work, or if your journey coincides with one of our classic evening thunderstorms. Being able to take the train with your bike can make a stressful situation much safer.

The prohibition on traveling with your bike during peak hour in the peak direction of travel also means that people wanting to travel through the CBD hub with their bikes, for further travel from their destination station, are also prohibited.

Sydney and Melbourne's metropolitan train systems allow bicycles for free at any time.

With patronage on City Trains still more than 48% down on pre-COVID numbers, it is a good time to encourage more people to use our excellent CityTrain system.

Bicycle Queensland and the metropolitan area bicycle user groups have been meeting with Queensland Rail's customer experience team, to work collaboratively on ensuring that bike riders can access safe and secure parking facilities at CityTrain stations, and to ensure that the upgraded stations on the network have facilities which meet the needs of bike riders.

The on-going glaring issue which this collaboration faces is the prohibition on bicycles during peak times.

We request that this prohibition be removed. As the [Queensland Rail website](#) says (and we agree): "Using your bicycle is a great way to get around South East Queensland."

We are not advocating that bicycle riders would have priority over other passengers, especially in situations where a train might be at capacity. Queensland Rail staff would retain the right to decline to allow a bicycle if it would cause an unsafe situation for other passengers.

We have not heard any reports of the train networks of Sydney and Melbourne grinding to a halt because of patrons with bicycles. Liberalising these rules will make our transport system just a little more friendly for active transport, and encourage more people to change the way they get around south-east Queensland.

Yours in encouraging a healthy and physically active Queensland,



Rebecca Randazzo, CEO Bicycle Queensland

Andrew Demack, Director of Advocacy, Bicycle Queensland

#### Bicycle User Group representatives

Chris Cox (Brisbane West Bicycle Users Group)

Belinda Ward (East BUG)

Paul French (CBD Bicycle Users Group)

Donald Campbell (CBD Bicycle Users Group)

John Prpic (Brisbane South Bicycle Users Group)

Rob Van Manen (Logan BUG)

Andrew Methorst (North BUG)