

COMMUNIQUÉ

The Australian Bicycle Council (ABC) held its meeting in Adelaide, South Australia on 24-25 May 2010. The meeting was chaired by Duncan Elliott, Austroads Network Program Manager. This communiqué summarises the main discussions, decisions and actions arising from the meeting.

A site visit was conducted around Adelaide city centre setting off from the headquarters of Bicycle SA, the main CBD outlet for Adelaide's free City Bikes, we travelled to the west of the city to view the recently completed Bakewell Underpass that grade separates Henley Beach Road from the Adelaide - Darwin, Adelaide - Melbourne rail freight line as well as the southern and hills passenger rail lines. The Underpass and approaches have both on and off-road facilities for cyclists. We travelled on a section of the Adelaide Park Lands Trail, a cycling/walking ring route that when completed will circumnavigate the CBD area. The section we rode went through the West Terrace Cemetery Adelaide's oldest.

We then followed the Mike Turtur Bikeway which is a bicycle route that follows the Glenelg Tramway and inspected the bicycle facilities of the recently opened Tramway Overpass of South Road. Adelaide's major bikeways are progressively being named after high achieving SA cyclists. We returned to the city via a coffee stop at King William Road, Hyde Park and then visited Adelaide's recent installation of "Copenhagen style" bicycle lane in Sturt Street in the city.

Later that night the Adelaide City Council resolved to remove their trial Copenhagen installation.

Outcomes of the ABC Meeting

OVERVIEW

The main focus of the meeting was the Australian National Cycling Strategy (NCS) 2005-2010 implementation and the finalisation of the draft for the NCS 2011-2016.

PROGRESS ON NATIONAL CYCLING STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

Web Based Cycling Resource Centre

As at 30 March 2010, the CRC averaged over 2800 visitors per month (up from 2500 last September) for the first quarter of the year, the site was attracting visits from Australia (72%), New Zealand (2.5%), with North America and UK being the next highest visitor locations. The most popular pages were: road safety statistics, the benefits of cycling, the cycle maps and bicycle statistics and cycle tourism.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL CYCLING STRATEGY

Progress on the implementation of the NCS for each jurisdiction was reported to the ABC based on responses received from ABC members. Many Priority Actions are complete and all other actions have had substantial progress made.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

All research projects are progressing.

Austroads Project Number:

- NS1435 – Effectiveness & Selection of Intersection Treatments for Cyclists – progress was delayed due to the volume of data required and to be processed. It is now expected that the project will be completed by September 2010.



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- NP1575 – ABC members discussed the draft of the NCS 2011-16. This project is on target and will be completed by July 2010.
- NP1436 – Cycling Aspects of Austroads Guides – The final draft was discussed and this project is on track for completion by 30 June 2010.

POWER ASSISTED BICYCLES

The Australian Road Rules review panel had no objection to the proposed changes for Power Assisted Peddle Cycles being proposed by the government / industry group being lead by NSW RTA.

AUSTRALIAN ROAD RULES

Several issues with regard to the ARR were discussed at the meeting, including:

- Vulnerable Road Users Liability
- Dual Bicycle and Pedestrian Lamps
- A Metre for Cyclists (Qld) and a Metre Matters (Amy Gillette Foundation)

NEXT MEETING

ABC meeting #35 will be held in Victoria in August 2010. A workshop on the Australian Road Rules and amending them to make it safer for vulnerable road users will be conducted in conjunction with the meeting.