

Living Streets Canberra comments on the Belconnen Bikeway

To: Community Engagement (by email)

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to comment on the Belconnen Bikeway.

Please consider our following comments:

- **Section A: The Old Busway**

We are pleased that this section will include Canberra's first separated pedestrian-only footpath.

How will a safe and efficient crossing be provided between the paths on the west side of Joynton Smith Drive and the paths on the north side of Emu bank?

- **Section B: Emu Bank**

- ***Emu Bank west***

What changes (e.g. improved traffic signal timing?) will be made to improve the safety and efficiency of pedestrian and bicycle crossings of Luxton and Beissell Streets?

- ***Emu Bank – central section***

Footpaths should continue across driveways, to reinforce that drivers should give way to pedestrians.

Given that this section is an area of high pedestrian activity, we do not believe that it is suitable for a separated cycle path that would encourage speeds in excess of 20 km/h.

We believe that the most appropriate approach for this section is a wide shared path with a speed limit of 20 km/h or lower, supported by bicycle speed bumps. Faster cyclists could travel on the road.

If the proposed separated cycle path is retained, than there should be an adjacent pedestrian-only footpath.

- ***Emu Bank east***

Any sections of separated cycle path should have adjacent pedestrian-only footpaths.

We do not believe that it is appropriate for the skate park and Lake Gininderra College entries/exits be crossed by a separated cycle path that will encourage speeds in excess of 20 km/h.

We believe that the most appropriate approach for these entries and exits is a wide shared path with a speed limit of 20 km/h or lower, supported by bicycle speed bumps and by Give Way signs to require cyclists on the shared path to give way to people entering or exiting the skate park or the college.

What changes (e.g. improved traffic signal timing) will be made to improve the safety and efficiency of pedestrian and bicycle crossings of Aikman Drive? A recent article in *The Age* describes new developments in this field:

<https://www.theage.com.au/national/victoria/walkers-over-cars-council-proposes-drastic-changes-to-make-cbd-more-pedestrian-friendly-20180620-p4zmq9.html>

- **Section C: Aikman Drive to Cooina Street**

Does the caption “future transport corridor” imply that at some future date a second carriageway is to be built along College Street, to the north of the existing single carriageway (and by implication that the existing footpath will need to be relocated)?

There appears to be a raised, shared crossing of Cooina Street. Is that a correct interpretation of the plan?

Is there any reason, other than cost, for the pedestrian-only path to deviate to (the existing path at) the edge of College Street, where it will be closer to the noise and danger of passing motor vehicles?

Is there any reason why the pedestrian footpath cannot be made pedestrian-only for the full length adjacent to the bicycle-only path?

- **Section D: College Street**

The footpath alongside College Street should become a pedestrian-only footpath, as cyclists will be able to use the adjacent bicycle-only path alongside Pinaroo Street.

What modifications (e.g. improved traffic signal timing) will be made to provide for safe and efficient pedestrian and bicycle crossings of Kirinari Street?

- **Section E: Haydon Drive**

The footpath alongside Haydon Drive should be a pedestrian-only footpath, wherever there are adjacent bicycle-only paths.

What modifications (e.g. improved traffic signal timing) will be made to provide for safe and efficient pedestrian and bicycle crossings of Battye Street?

- **Benjamin Way connection**

No comment.

Belconnen Arts Centre Boardwalk extension

Careful consideration will need to be given to permitting cyclists to travel between Emu Bank and the pedestrian bridge over the south end of Lake Ginninderra, without endangering or inconveniencing pedestrians.

Yours Sincerely

Leon Arundell B Sc Hons, M Env St, Grad Dipl Appl Econ.

Chair, Living Streets Canberra

30 June, 2018