



Office of the Minister for Roads and Ports

30 JUL 2010

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Mr Peter Campbell
81A Durham Road
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Dear Mr Campbell

BICYCLE ROUTE NAMING AND SIGNS STANDARDS

I refer to your email of 8 June 2010 addressed to the Minister for Roads and Ports, Tim Pallas MP, concerning bicycle route naming and sign standards. I am replying on behalf of the Minister.

The Victorian Government is currently developing Victorian-specific standards for on-road bicycle direction signage to complement the Austroads *Guide to Road Design: Part 6A: Pedestrian and Cyclist Paths*. These standards will ensure greater consistency in bicycle signage delivered by different road authorities.

To complement the new standards, the Victorian Government will release a guide for local governments implementing wayfinding systems in municipal areas.

In 2009, the Brumby Government released its \$115 million *Victorian Cycling Strategy*, which outlines a cycling network for Melbourne's inner 10 kilometres and principles for delivering cycling networks across the State.

VicRoads is currently reviewing the Principal Bicycle Network to focus investment across State and local governments on designated priority cycling routes in metropolitan Melbourne, both on and off road. This is the primary mechanism for addressing governance arrangements for routes that cross local government boundaries.

Together, the standards and guide will assist local government in providing consistent cycling signage across Victoria, while the *Victorian Cycling Strategy* and Principal Bicycle Network will guide statewide development of cycling networks.

The *Transport Integration Act* 2010 came into force on 1 July 2010. The Act brings together the whole transport portfolio under one principal piece of legislation for the first time in the State's history, and ensures that planning for any one part of the transport system is not considered in isolation. The Act is aimed at helping to ensure that decisions impacting on transport take an integrated approach. As a result, any decisions by bodies who manage railway easements or Crown land will need to take into account the broader objectives of the transport system enshrined in the Act, to act in a way that is integrated and sustainable. This new framework will therefore mean that everyone is working towards the same goals, including considering the needs of cyclists, and ensuring that cycling is an integral part of our transport system. In line with these new obligations, the Department of Transport (DOT) is undertaking a feasibility study on the potential to use rail corridors for cycling infrastructure.

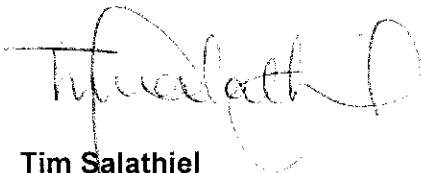
Under current ministerial portfolios, cycling as a mode of transport is clearly identified as a responsibility of the Minister for Roads and Ports. However, as you are aware, cycling is not just a mode of transport but also an important recreational activity and a form of physical activity providing significant health benefits. Consequently, other portfolios take a keen interest in cycling and have roles in supporting cycling activities. The Victorian Government has a strong commitment to whole of government thinking and approaches to ensure that a coordinated approach is taken to issues like cycling that are significant for more than one portfolio.

The Government recognises the significant contribution made by Bicycle Users Groups to help improve cycling outcomes in Victoria, and will continue to consult with you on cycling issues affecting local areas. Bicycle Users Groups are welcome to contact the Victorian Government on issues of concern to them, and can also have input on cycling issues through engaging with Bicycle Victoria, local councils, and VicRoads.

VicRoads will shortly be releasing a discussion paper on the Victorian standards for on-road bicycle direction signage. We will contact you when the paper is available for comment.

If you have any queries, please contact Fiona Calvert of the Department of Transport on telephone (03) 9655 6096.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Salathiel', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Tim Salathiel
Chief of Staff