

EastGippBUG

www.eastgippbug.com

is an Internet based 'virtual' entity giving voice to issues affecting bicycle riders across East Gippsland, speaking with those who can affect change, and building advocacy for more and safer cycling.

Bulletin No 11. November/December 2008

Please spread the word about this email bulletin and the BUG.

The aim is to help raise a voice for more and safer cycling in East Gippsland.

Q. Can more people riding bicycles more often be good for business in Bairnsdale?

If the answer is 'Yes', how can pro-cycling interests influence the outcome of the recently announced "Building a Better Bairnsdale" growth strategy development process?

As reported in the Bairnsdale Advertiser on Friday November 21 last, the objective of the 20 year strategy will be **'to provide guidance fore future residential, commercial and industrial growth, as well as plans for improvement to transport, infrastructure, community facilities and the central business district of the city.'**

Backed by a very substantial funding package (\$180,000) and as a partnership involving the EGSC, DSE and Regional Development Victoria, a reference group of 19 community representatives has been selected to contribute ideas throughout the project over the next year.

What pro cycling matters could be brought to the attention of the reference group? What actions are needed to ensure that group hears the interests for cycling?

Council officers have lodged an internal request for funding to update the 1999 (and later minor review) EG Bicycle Strategy. Under headings of transport, community facilities, and tourism there should be no argument against getting that Strategy overhauled, with particular focus on Bairnsdale.

Without needing to wait for that Strategy update however there are several specific items based on local knowledge and bicycle users experience which could be dealt into the "Building a Better Bairnsdale" growth strategy. They include:

1. Building an off road link to Eagle Point to link with Paynesville (recreation, tourism and commuter use).
2. Adding bicycle parking rails throughout the CBD (to Australian Standards e.g. inverted U rails).
3. Re-marking the bicycle logo symbols on existing on-road lanes.
4. A review of critical off-road (shared pathway) links that need to be installed.
5. An expansion of the shared pathway options (designate to comply with traffic regulations).
6. Ensuring all schools have adequate bicycle storage facilities (encourage Ride to School).
7. Assisting local businesses to incorporate support for customers and employees using bicycles (shopping and commuting).

BUG supporters can play a decisive role by contacting members of the reference group to explain these interests and encourage them to add cycling to the considerations.

Some the members who might be approached (call, write) include:

M/s Margaret Suplitt (EGSC Economic Advisory Board) Ph. 5156 6621

Mr Eric Sjerp (EGSC Environmental Sustainability Advisory Board)
Ethos NRM Pty Ltd PO Box 204, 162 Macleod Street Bairnsdale Ph. 5153 0037

Mr Neville Penrose Regional Manager DSE71 Hotham Street, Traralgon Ph 03 5172 2111

M/s Loueen Goodall President, Bairnsdale Chamber of Commerce and Industry Ph 5152 3484

Mr Bruce Hurley Gippsland Lakes Community Health
18 - 26 Jemmerson St Lakes Entrance Ph 5155 8300

Mr Wayne Sullivan Bairnsdale Regional Health Service C/- Bairnsdale Hospital Ph 5152 3389

M/s Angela Hutson East Gippsland TAFE 48 Main St Bairnsdale 3875 Ph 1300 133 717

If you have an issue related to cycling in EG, or want to air a topic, please email your thoughts to eastgippbug@wideband.net.au

The EastGippBUG email network.

The link will be to and via: eastgippbug@wideband.net.au and at our [website](http://www.eastgippbug.com) as above.

This email Bulletin is Bcc'd as a privacy measure.

To add a name to the list **please ask the person interested to send** the following:

an email message with their name, a postal address and phone No. It will be presumed that this response will give permission for their name etc to be held on the EastGippBUG database and email address used for the Bulletin mailings.

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