



Nick McKim MP

Greens Leader
Member for Franklin
Tasmanian Greens

11, March 2014

Emma Pharo
Bicycle Tasmania

Via email: Bicycle Tasmania Advocacy <advocacy@biketas.org.au>

Dear Emma

On behalf of the Tasmanian Greens MPs and Greens candidates I am pleased to respond to Bicycle Tasmania's 2014 State Election questionnaire.

1. How have you supported and promoted bicycling for transport in the past?

The Greens have been strong advocates for cyclists and cycling for decades, at all three tiers of government.

As Greens Sustainable Transport Minister over the last period of government, I have been proud to deliver, in collaboration with local communities, cyclists and stakeholders, the following investment in bicycle infrastructure:

- \$400, 000 on cycleway developments in Queenstown
- \$200, 000 on cycleway developments in Rosebery
- Invested over \$165, 000 to widen Bonnet Hill for cyclists and pedestrians
- Secured over \$4.7 million for bikes and trailways programs
- Invested \$500, 000 into the Geilston Bay track link
- \$1 million for the Quoiba pathway
- Invested \$82, 200 for the Oatlands Trail
- Secured over \$70, 000 for the Port Sorell Track Network
- Invested over \$200, 000 in the Alum Cliffs Trail extensions
- Invested over \$130, 000 in the Kingborough Mountain Bike Skills Park
- Invested over \$300, 000 into the Clarence Foreshore Trail – Alexandra Esplanade Link
- Invested over \$28,000 into the Jordan River pathway
- Invested over \$10,000 into the Greater Hobart Regional Bike Map
- Invested over \$350,000 into the Sorell Waterways Trail
- Invested over \$300,000 into the Glenorchy Cycling Hub – Tolosa Criterium circuit

1 of 4

- Invested over \$30, 000 into the Spring Bay Linkway
- Invested \$35, 000 into the Campania Dirt Jumps track
- Invested over \$430,000 in the Beaconsfield to Beauty Point Pathway
- Invested over \$500,000 into the Low Head Shared Trail
- Invested \$110,000 into the Sheffield Pathway
- Invested \$25,000 into Burnie Outdoor Fitness Equipment Trails

Additional to the above investment in trails and cycleway, Greens in government also created the \$2.8 million Park and Ride Fund, and invested \$300, 000 in the Kingston Park and Ride facility.

The Greens are committed to continue building on these foundations. During this election campaign we have released over \$37 million worth of cycling related election commitments:

- \$23.3 million to progress the Battery Point Boardwalk **Battery Point Boardwalk**
- Our \$6 million 'Rethinking the Public Sector Workplace Scheme' commitment includes the provision of facilities to encourage non-car modes of transport, and refurbishment of government buildings to provide shower and secure equipment storage facilities: **Investing in a Revitalised Public Sector**
- Over \$5 million for our north-west shared pathway and geotrail: **Building the Shared Pathway**
- \$1.5 million to integrate a continuous waterfront shared pathway: linking the proposed Battery Point boardwalk, Castray Esplanade Pedestrian and Cycleway pathway and the Morrison St bike path : **Revitalise Hobart**
- \$1million for new mountain bike tracks, including a North West Coast and West Coast linked mountain bike touring route. **Adventure Lies in the West**
- \$400, 000 to extend the kunyoni-Mount Wellington North-South Track bike track and incorporate it into a network of mountain bike experiences around the mountain, linking with other parks in greater Hobart. The Greens will examine extending the network of mountain bike tracks into the South West along existing roads and tracks. : **Linking Salamanca to the World Heritage Area**

Investing in bike infrastructure, whether purely for sport and recreation, or for road cycle commuters, is also an investment in fitness, health and well-being. By encouraging more Tasmanians to take up some form of cycling as a recreational pursuit will also help foster greater understanding and awareness of the needs of cyclists sharing our roads.

2. Will you commit to ongoing funding to the Department of Sport and Recreation at current levels or higher?

Yes, we would maintain current levels at a minimum, and look at increasing the allocation where possible. This is an important investment in promoting and encouraging Tasmanians to become more active for recreation, sport and when commuting.

3. Will you commit to a NEW allocation of \$30M to the PUCN program?

Under the current Government there is in-principle support for the Principal Urban Cycling Networks program (PUCN) but no funding approval.

Yes, the Greens would prioritise upgrading the current government in-principle support to actual funding for the Principal Urban Cycling networks program. As Greens Sustainable Transport Minister I oversaw the establishment of Principal Urban Cycling Networks in every major urban area, and I remain committed to maintaining and growing this important cycling network.

4. If elected, would you participate in a bicycle round table event in mid 2014, held to gather key stakeholders to evaluate current and potential actions to keep riders safe?

As Greens Sustainable Transport Minister I convened a bicycle round table event in November last year, and would be very happy to participate in making that an annual event. This forum generated a very informative report which should now be utilised to inform ongoing development of road safety programs highlighting the need to encourage greater awareness of cycles and pedestrians on our roads.

Regular bicycle stakeholder forums such as the Cycling Roundtable Forum are important to help make the cultural shift amongst the public planners, and other road users that cycling is a valid mode of transportation, and cyclists have a right to travel on roads as well as dedicated bike paths.

5. If elected, would you maintain funding for an annual professional development event around best practice at both state and local government levels?

Yes. We would work with Greens' local councillors around the stat to ensure that local government was also prepared to come on board with such an initiative.

6. Will you support priority bicycling projects in your Electorate?

It is the Greens' position to support priority bicycling projects statewide.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide the Greens' position on the range of matters raised in your questions above. We look forward to continuing to work towards a more bike-friendly Tasmania with bicycle Tasmania and other cycling stakeholders..

Yours sincerely,



Nick McKim MP
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