

3 November 2022

Paul Tatchell, Candidate for Eureka

Liberal Party

RESPONSE:

"My wife rides her bike into the office in the Industrial Estate regularly and its totally inadequate, and probably dangerous; I don't ride a bike very often, but I am aware of plenty of people that do; so I would be supportive of safety improvements in terms of bike lanes and bike awareness training for other road users.

I think bike lanes and bike paths would be a good place to start, and continuity where bike lanes connect. I also think the bike awareness campaign on the television was a good reminder that bikes share the road, and the safe distances between traffic and bike. I don't believe that the license training at Vicroads is sufficient for new drivers, and there should be more attention given to the licensing process.

Your third question on the percentage of the spend has too many variables; it needs a full report on usage in defined areas, then a figure put on it; using 2% as a measure doesn't work for me, as it could be 2% of what? If it's the total revenue of the budget it would be generous in consideration that Rural Victoria is under 10% for its whole infrastructure budget, this is despite Regional Victorians paying a third of the total revenue.

If a standard was set for road infrastructure to include bikes, the costs would be spread between Council and the State and that's not a percentage it's a relevant cost to each district based on the road network and the different standards of road infrastructure; it needs to be a shared responsibility."