

21 June 2024

Bill Delves
CEO
South Bank Corporation
@ Bill.Delves@south-bank.net.au

Dear Bill

Congratulations to you and your team for the work on the Grey Street Bikeway and Streetscape Project. BSB was delighted that this was released so soon after the announcement of the South Bank Masterplan.

As you are aware, BSB's vision is to make the 'greater' South Bank precinct into one of the best urban precincts in the World – a global destination.

BSB's four *Fundamental Principles* are:

- (1) connections
- (2) global destination
- (3) inclusivity
- (4) sustainability.

We are delighted that the project shares comparable Principles.

Following feedback from BSB's annual survey as well as direct feedback from members located on Grey Street, We would like to provide the following comments/queries as part of public consultation submission:

Street calming

- BSB is supportive of the street calming initiatives such as reduction of speed to 30km/hr, and multiple new pedestrian crossings.
- We note the preliminary design has five new pedestrian crossings on Grey Street. These crossings will provide a much safer crossing paths for pedestrians than the current median strip.
- BSB supports the removal of the roundabout on the corner of Ernest and Grey Street.
- The likely noise reduction from this calming will elevate the atmosphere and appeal to the street.

Bikeway

- BSB supports the bi-directional bikeway but has some concerns in relation to its application beyond Russell Street.
- The proposed scramble crossing at the corner of Russell and Grey is likely to be, not only very confusing for cyclists (and pedestrians), but dangerous depending on the speed the cyclists and scooters are travelling.
- Also, it is not clear how cyclists will be encouraged (from Goodwill Bridge) to use the bikeway instead of Clem Jones Promenade. Ideally the majority of fast-moving cyclists/scooters should use the bikeway.
- It is assumed that priority will be given to pedestrians on the five new pedestrian crossings as they cross over the bikeway. Could this create a dis-incentive for cyclists to use the bikeway?

Street Access

- We recognise that the objective of the project is to reduce the number of cars travelling along Grey St, however as Grey St is one of the main feeders from/to the William Jolly Bridge it is expected that Grey St will still be used as a thoroughfare. With the removal of the roundabout, what allowance has been made for cars needing to do a U-turn? We would recommend that within the detailed design stage a clearly mapped out wayfinding plan be devised.
- Although we recognise that the traffic light configuration is outside of SBC's capacity, it needs to be noted, that Grey Street is an attractive 'rat run' due to the Grey & Vulture Street traffic light configuration favouring Grey Street over the larger arterial intersection of Merivale and Vulture.
- Changes to these traffic lights will help to mitigate congestion on Merivale Street (and deeper into Vulture Street) and thwart motorists using Grey Street.

Service accessibility

- It is not clear if coach access particularly for the hotels located on Grey Street is likely to be changed.
- We note the draft design maintains the same amount of loading zones for passenger pick-up and drop-off and commercial vehicles.

BSB is delighted that the plan includes 30% more trees and 120% more green space. This will assist in urban cooling, the aesthetic and general comfort of the street.

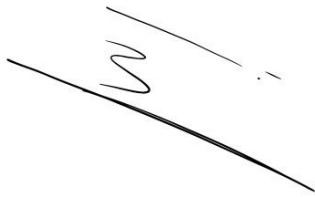
Overwhelmingly, one of the comments BSB received was in relation to timelines. We note that the final preliminary design is expected to be completed in mid to late 2024, however there were no details in relation to the delivery of the project.

This is an outstanding project and we commend SBC on its work thus far and would urge SBC and the Government to properly fund the work required.

BSB is delighted to be considered a stakeholder in the preliminary design process and would like to offer its further assistance at the final preliminary design stage..

Please do not hesitate to have your office contact BSB's CEO, Janine Watson on 3846 5191 or janinew@businesssouthbank.com.au if you have any questions about this submission.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JB', is written over a diagonal line that extends from the bottom left towards the top right.

JOHN BARTON
CHAIR