



THE BICYCLE INSTITUTE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA
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Cycling for the Environment, for Health, for Pleasure

20 October 2016

Stephen Mullighan MP
Minister for Transport and Infrastructure
GPO Box 1533
Adelaide, SA, 5001

Dear Minister

State bicycle funding

I write to express concern about the delay in the release of information about Council bicycle projects that are to be funded this year.

We are now into the second quarter of the financial year without Councils being told whether their grant applications have been successful or not. This means that funded projects will be planned and undertaken in a compressed period, with implications for the quality of the work undertaken, including consultation.

While this year is worse than usual, the normal arrangements for funding are not good. Speaking as someone who has worked as a consultant who has tried to specialise in planning for walking and cycling, I am all too aware that these arrangements create "feast or famine" situations, with no work in the first half of the financial year, and a rush to complete jobs at the end of the financial year. This not only results in work that is not as good as it would be if done in a timely manner. It also impacts on the quality of local providers, with none able to focus on this aspect of transport planning.

The Bicycle Institute believes that South Australia's cyclists – and the community in general – would be much better served with a more timely, long-term provision of funding for bicycle projects. We have in mind something like a rolling two or even three-year program of funding. We would be happy to discuss this further.

In the meantime, please release details of this year's funding.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fay Patterson".

Fay Patterson
Chair, Bicycle Institute of South Australia