

Question on Notice

No. 776

Asked on Thursday, 24 May 2007

MR DICKSON asked the Minister for Transport and Main Roads (MR LUCAS)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the construction of bikeways—

- (1) How much funding has been provided for the construction of bikeways during 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007 to date (reported separately)?
- (2) Where and how many kilometres of bikeways were constructed in 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007 to date (reported separately)?

ANSWER:

(1) The Beattie Government's investment in cycle infrastructure is unprecedented with an injection of \$220 million over 20 years (in 2006 dollars) to accelerate the development of the South East Queensland Cycle Network as outlined in the South East Queensland Infrastructure Plan and Program 2006 – 2026 [SEQIPP].

SEQ Cycle Network Program [CNP] delivers the State Government's funding commitments in the period to 2026 to develop the sub regional cycle network. State funding for capital grants is matched on a 50/50 basis by Local Governments to accelerate the development of key cycling links and facilities. Local councils are required to apply for grants and the response indicates that this program has been very positively received.

In 2005-06, CNP funded a \$440 000 capital grant to Gold Coast City Council for restoration of the bike access to the Red Bridge.

During 2006-07, CNP awarded 32 capital grants to 10 Local Governments totalling \$6.21m. This includes \$1.5m funding from 2006-07 and 2007-08 towards the development of the Brisbane Cycle Centre, an end of trip facility for the CBD that is currently being developed as part of the Inner Northern Busway project.

At the end of May, my Parliamentary Secretary was in Noosa to announce a new \$600,000 pedestrian and cycle bridge to be built along Eenie Creek Road at Sunshine Beach. The State Government and Noosa Shire Council are committing \$300,000 each to fund the project. This bridge will link shared walking and cycle paths between Sunshine Beach State School, St Thomas More Catholic Primary School and Sunshine Beach State High School.

In addition, three capital works projects have been approved including: \$10.6m to construct the Normanby Pedestrian and Cycle Link, \$4m towards a bicycle and pedestrian bridge over the Western Freeway near the Toowong roundabout, \$1.55m towards a cycle and pedestrian underpass at Boronia Heights included in the Mount Lindesay Highway upgrade.

The Department of Main Roads (Main Roads) also provides funding under the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS) towards Local Government bikeways. Funding has been distributed as in the following table:

	Statewide
2003-04	\$6.5m
2004-05	\$3.6m
2005-06	\$5.0m
2006-07	\$4.4m

In addition, Main Roads constructs bikeways as part of road projects. Bikeways are constructed to contribute to the regional cycle network or to address local transport needs to complement Local Government bikeway facilities. For example, the Gateway Bridge Duplication project includes a \$35 million pedestrian and cycle facility on the duplicate bridge. It will form a key part of a new world class walking and cycling route: the 150 km Moreton Bay cycleway stretching from Bribie Island to Redland Bay.

(2) It is estimated that over 250km of bikeway facilities has been constructed under the funding listed above. This is in addition to bikeways constructed as part of road projects on the State controlled network.

The focus of the CNP capital works program has been to provide key linkages to the cycle networks. The Normanby Pedestrian Cycle Link includes an underpass at the Normanby five-ways providing a safe link to the CBD, Bicentennial Bikeway and the proposed Tank Street green bridge and Brisbane Cycle Centre. The proposed overpass at Toowong and underpass under the Mount Lindsay Highway at Boronia Heights provide safe connections to cycle networks.

The Goodwill Bridge Project and the proposed Tank Street Bridge are other notable examples of the Beattie Government investing in walking and cycling infrastructure in Brisbane city. The Government invested approximately \$25 million in the Goodwill Bridge construction. It has had a very positive impact on people's journeys between the southern corner of the city and South Bank, Highgate Hill and Woolloongabba.

Expected to completed in 2009, the new Tank Street Bridge will provide a pedestrian and cycle link between the city and the new Queensland Gallery of Modern Art at South Brisbane. Like the Goodwill Bridge, the Tank Street Bridge will invite people to walk and cycle their way to better outcomes for public health, the environment and transport efficiency.