

BOROONDARA

Bicycle Users Group

Boroondara Bicycle Users Group
Response to:

City of Boroondara
Victoria Park Masterplan

18 Feb 2008

Executive Summary

The research and development of the park master plan inadequately addressed cycling in the park. The proposed circulation path, as a fortuitous byproduct, may partly satisfy cyclists' needs when traversing the park.

Details

A check of the Travel Smart map reveals that the park is part of a significant north south route.

Council's cyclist crash data shows a high number of crashes near the entrance to the park. Ditto on Whitehorse road at Davis St, which is on the aforementioned north south route at the southern end.

The draft Bicycle Strategy identifies Adeney Ave as a cycling route: page 51 of 89

It appears that not much consideration has been given to cycling in the actual park. Further more we would contend that virtually no consideration has been given to what cycling routes people use to access the park and how these routes will interface with the park.

We would like to see a path in Victoria Park that:

- starts in the north directly adjacent to the pedestrian crossing (currently it does not) at High St. It's possible that directing park users directly to the pedestrian crossing may reduce crashes at this point.
- finishes in the south at the corner of Adeney Ave and Parkhill Rd.
- follows the line of the cemetery wall as much as possible
- is constructed primarily of sand colored concrete or concrete edged bitumen
- is 3m wide and divided with a white line
- has an appropriate gradient as it traverses the park

We note that the proposed circular path may satisfy some of these points.

[Victoria Park Masterplan Part 2f.pdf](#)

Page 59, "OBSERVER QUESTIONS AND ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

*Council officers undertook to install a negotiable barrier at the end of the path to slow down cyclists entering High Street."

BBUG does not agree that “negotiable barriers” are helpful – they represent a dangerous obstacle, particularly at night.

Background

Checking all the documents re: Victoria Park, as made available on the council's website, shows these following mentions of cycling in regard to the park master plan. In summary they don't appear to address cycling in any meaningful way in relationship to the redevelopment of the park. Comments from the gallery also appear to have been ignored:

Victoria Park Masterplan Part 1a.pdf

Page 6, "The park is accessible by bicycle via the Outer Circle Railway Anniversary Trail."

Page 25, Table 3: Activity: Cycling 6.1% of Victorians:

Victoria Park Masterplan Part 1b.pdf

Page 75, "better paths including improved disabled access and the construction of a circuit path to provide opportunities for people to walk, run and cycle around the perimeter of the park;"

Victoria Park Masterplan Part 1c.pdf

No mention of "cycle, cyclist(s), bicycle, bicyclist(s)"

Victoria Park Masterplan Part 2a.pdf

Page 13, "Question 4: Why do you use Victoria Park? Answer: Cycling 3%"

Victoria Park Masterplan Part 2b.pdf

Page 40, on traveling to the park: "Mode of Transport Bicycle 6%"

Victoria Park Masterplan Part 2c.pdf

No mention of "cycle, cyclist(s), bicycle, bicyclist(s)"

Victoria Park Masterplan Part 2d.pdf

No mention of "cycle, cyclist(s), bicycle, bicyclist(s)"

Victoria Park Masterplan Part 2e.pdf

Page 36, "Design of the entry road to accommodate vehicle and cyclist traffic and anticipated vehicle queuing." - no response to query in regard to cyclists

Page 37, "Main car park proposed design regarding pedestrian, motorist and cyclist safety."

Response "Appropriate signage will be required at the pedestrian crossing points clearly displaying who has priority (e.g. cars or pedestrians). It is advisable that at the pedestrian/cyclist path at the main accessway that priority be given to cars."

Victoria Park Masterplan Part 2f.pdf

Page 55, "(k) Link path to south end of oval and better 3 way path junction. – KD raised the issue of pedestrian/cyclist conflict on main perimeter path - MB suggested to add note to the CMP that a min 2m wide path to be achieved where constraints allow. Accepted by WG."

Page 59, "OBSERVER QUESTIONS AND ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Observers were then asked if they had any questions or comments, which included:

*Opportunity to strengthen / encourage bicycle use by park users, especially due to the park's proximity to bike trails."

*Primary path running along the cemetery boundary - suggestion to move the connection to High St off the Cemetery wall - potential for collision - Council officers undertook to install a negotiable barrier at the end of the path to slow down cyclists entering High Street."

Attachments: Travel Smart map & photo of path/pedestrian crossing at High St.