



4 February 2013

Ms Dorte Ecklund
Director
Major Cities Unit
Department of Infrastructure and Transport
GPO Box 594
Canberra ACT 2601

Dear Ms Ecklund

Submission: Walking, Riding and Access to Public Transport (WRAPT) Discussion Paper

The Heart Foundation, Australian Local Government Association and the Planning Institute of Australia commend the Major Cities Unit and the Department of Infrastructure and Transport for what we believe, is one of the best discussion papers ever produced by Federal Government!

We are very pleased to endorse and support the objectives and content of the discussion paper. Specifically, we support the following recommendations of WRAPT:

- The inclusion of health as an intrinsic aspect of transport planning considerations;
- Provide consistent standards and guidelines, monitoring and evaluation, with nationally consistent decision making processes;
- Working with a clear hierarchy of planning – integrating land use and transport planning, and identifying principal walking and riding routes in State and regional plans;
- Designing networks of continuous, convenient connections, including:
 - building appropriate infrastructure for walking and bicycling needs, including separated lanes, sharing road space with appropriate; speeds, and recognising the vulnerability of bicycles as road vehicles.
 - incorporating pedestrian and bicycle facilities when building other infrastructure; and
 - recognising positive provision policies of States and Territories, as well as providing mid and end-of-trip facilities;
- Encouraging greater participation in walking, riding and public transport through leveraging infrastructure investment to incentivise and educate.

In particular, we urge the Australian Government to swiftly move to embracing the discussion paper as formal government strategy and underpin it with action to put the key recommendations into place.

We look forward to supporting the objectives of this forthcoming policy area, through our ongoing commitment to Healthy Spaces and Places.

Congratulations and kind regards,

Dr Kate White
on behalf of the Healthy Spaces and Places Steering Committee