



MEDIA RELEASE

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Pedal Power welcomes Government support for Civic Cycle Loop

Canberra cycling group, Pedal Power ACT, today welcomed the ACT Government's acceptance of the Civic Cycle Loop as the top of its priority list of projects to improve cycling in Canberra. Pedal Power had proposed the Loop a year ago. The announcement was made by Simon Corbell, acting Transport Minister, today which is national Ride to Work Day.

Pedal Power spokesman, Matt Larkin, welcomed the announcement saying it will provide another reason for people to ride to work.

'Around Australia today tens of thousands of people are riding to work and getting their petrol bill down, getting healthy and getting to work all at the same time. Riding to work is increasingly popular. The number of people cycling into Civic has risen 64% over six years based on Pedal Power's cordon count. The Civic Cycle Loop will strengthen that trend.

Pedal Power recommends that the Civic Cycle Loop incorporate European-style physically separated cycle lanes. Pedal Power believes that the physical separation will encourage people who feel uncomfortable cycling in traffic to leave their car at home and cycle. 'Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Adelaide have all built or are building physically separated cycle lanes to encourage cycling so it is definitely worth doing for high volume routes such as this,' said Mr Larkin.

The Civic Cycle Loop would connect East and West Civic as well as connect the two most popular cycle paths in Canberra together, the Sullivan's Creek cycle path and the Lake Burley Griffin cycle path. The Western side of the Cycle Loop will go along Marcus Clarke St and connect the Sullivan's Creek cycle path with the Lake Burley Griffin cycle path via the footbridge near the Acton Ferry Terminal. The Eastern arm of the Loop will start at the footbridge near the Civic Swimming Pool and go along Allara, Bunda and Rudd Sts to connect with Marcus Clarke St.

Mr Shields also noted that Canberra's wide streets and footpaths meant that the work could be undertaken with little reduction in car parking

Pedal Power has over 3,500 members and its mission is 'More Canberrans cycling, more often, for a better community'.

For more details: **Matt Larkin**

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