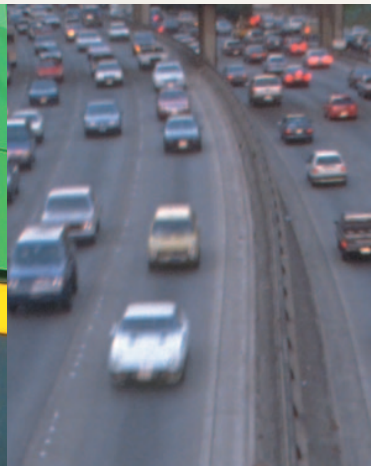
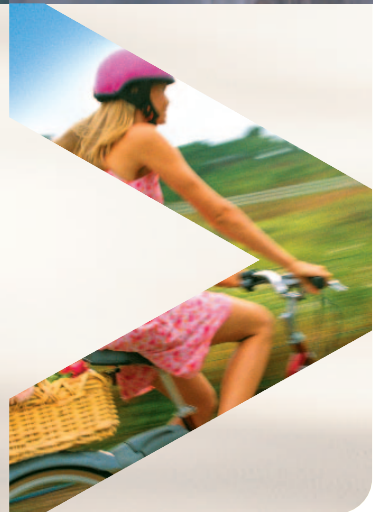


Australia faces some significant challenges; **climate change**, **the obesity epidemic**, **rising fuel costs** and **spiraling congestion** in our cities.



An excellent opportunity exists to address these issues by encouraging more Australians to ride bicycles.

Promoting cycling is an effective method of achieving significant gains for health, environment and transport.



Bicycle organisations across Australia call on the Commonwealth Government to promote smarter transport choices and fund bicycle infrastructure improvements

Bicycle Infrastructure Improvements

Healthy and Active Transport Program (HEAT)

Bicycle organisations across Australia call on the Commonwealth Government to provide financial assistance to local governments wishing to improve their walking and cycling infrastructure. **The proposed HEAT funding initiative would provide \$50m each year for four years** to allow local councils to develop a physical environment more conducive to walking and cycling.



The proposed funding package would enable local councils to:

- Develop safe transport routes; to schools, shops, workplaces and community facilities
- Build regional bicycle routes; to encourage bicycle tourism and deliver sustainable economic benefits to regional Australia.

www.bfa.asn.au

Promoting Smarter Transport Choices

Ride to Work and Ride2School Programs



Bicycle organisations across Australia call on the Commonwealth Government to support and extend two key behaviour change programs: **Ride to Work** and **Ride2School**.

These two programs have been piloted and proved highly successful in Victoria and are now spreading around Australia. Each program delivers significant and measurable change in physical activity, reducing obesity and related diseases including diabetes, heart disease and depression. Current participation is above 30,000 in each program.



The increase in riding from these programs deliver other spin off benefits such as clean air, increased workplace productivity and improved student results.

Commonwealth responsibilities in health, environment and transport can be effectively met by supporting these cost-effective, high return programs and extending them across the Australian community.

www.ride2work.com.au

and

www.ride2school.com.au

For further information about these initiatives contact:
Stephen Hodge 0411 149 910

