

Australian bicycle organisations invite candidates to invest in a National Infrastructure Program for active transport in our communities

We are writing to you on behalf of the Australian bicycle sector with an opportunity to create safer, healthier and more vibrant communities through greater investment in cycling infrastructure that benefits everyone.

In 2023, 15% of Australians rode a bike in the previous week and 37% had done so over the previous year. Of those who weren't riding, 41% were interested but concerned about riding on busy roads.¹

Creating appropriate infrastructure in our communities has been shown to significantly increase bike riding and is especially important around our schools. When parents and children can safely ride to school, morning traffic eases for everyone.

The ability to choose a bike for short trips can help families save on transport costs while providing more convenient options for local travel. When more people feel confident riding bikes in their neighbourhoods, our streets become more efficient and enjoyable for everyone.

The physical activity gained from riding a bike delivers immediate benefits to physical and mental health. Whether it's children riding to school or adults riding to work or shops, the preventative health benefits of cycling help people stay healthy and active.

Enabling more people to ride bikes creates an immediate path to reduce our transport emissions while bringing multiple community benefits.

The Australian Automobile Association, representing car clubs nationally, recognises this need and the benefits of bike riding, stating:

*'For active transport to play a meaningful role in reducing congestion and emissions, sufficient funding will be needed to ensure that suitable infrastructure is delivered to support a shift to this transport mode.'*²

The growing popularity of e-bikes is making riding accessible to more people, including those who previously found distance, hills, or physical limitations to be barriers. Supporting this trend through appropriate infrastructure and incentives will allow more Australians to choose sustainable, enjoyable transportation for everyday trips.

We invite your support for a commitment by the next Australian Government to increase funding to \$250 million per year, representing just 1.9% of the Australian Government's land transport budget.

This funding through the Active Transport Fund to States and Territories would support infrastructure and programs that enable more people to ride bikes and use other forms of micromobility.

¹ <https://www.cwanz.com.au/national-walking-and-cycling-participation-survey-2023/>

² https://www.aaa.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/2025_Pre_Budget_Sub_WEB.pdf

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In supporting this initiative, you will help ease cost of living pressures for Australian families, create healthier and more active communities, enable children to safely ride to school again, improve safety for everyone on our streets, and support climate action by enabling zero-carbon transport.

This can be achieved by:

- Allocating \$250M per year to active transport (just 1.9% of federal land transport budget) by increasing funding to the Active Transport Fund
- Working with State and Territory governments to create safe cycling infrastructure around schools and communities
- Removing the 5% 'nuisance tariff' on imported e-bikes
- Removing FBT on e-bike leasing to provide parity with electric vehicle incentives

Thank you for considering this opportunity to make a meaningful difference in how Australians move around their communities. We would be pleased to discuss this further with you or provide additional information.

Kind regards,



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