



nillumBUG Inc
(Nillumbik Bicycle User Group)
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Nillumbug (Nillumbik Bicycle User Group) has now been operating for 12 months. This seems an appropriate time to consider what the group has achieved.

This community cycling group formed in order to address cycling concerns in the north-east region of Melbourne. One of the main things our group is keen to see occur, is the construction of a trail from Diamond Creek to Hurstbridge. A petition in support of the trail was commenced in February 2006, and in just a few months, 1500 signatures were collected in support of the trail. The petition was passed on to Danielle Green, MP for Yan Yean, who confirmed that the Minister for Transport and the Department of Infrastructure agreed to commencing a feasibility study for the trail. However, progress is slow, and continued community support for the project is needed. Nillumbug would encourage members of the community to contact us, or write to their local politicians, to express their desire for the trail to be built.

Nillumbug supports naming the trail in honour of Peter Brock, who was instrumental in getting the community behind the project. Nillumbug assisted the Peter Brock Foundation in a Diamond Creek to Hurstbridge ride on April 9th 2006, with more than 300 cyclists participating.

After several letters to Council and Vicroads, Nillumbug is pleased to report that in January 2007, Nillumbik Council has agreed to give consideration to provide a footpath and cyclepath along the eastern side of Heidelberg-Kinglake Road, between Sunnyside Crescent and Warrington Crescent. Council is currently awaiting approval from Vicroads before it can begin construction, as this is Vicroads land.

Following communication with Vicroads, Nillumbug has been assured that access to the cycle path along Greensborough Bypass will be improved. This is likely to be achieved by the installation of pedestrian signals to the north of the roundabout near NMIT.

Nillumbug members have been involved in the consultation process with Vicroads to work towards achieving the best possible outcome for cyclists when a section of the Kangaroo Ground -St Andrews road is upgraded.

In addition, over the past year the Nillumbug has achieved the following:

- Membership is in excess of 150.
- Establishment of good communication with Nillumbik Shire and with Vicroads
- Representation and participation in RTAC (Recreational Trails Advisory Committee), a council run group which addresses new and existing trails in the shire
- Completion of a comprehensive audit of the Diamond Creek Trail, to assist Nillumbik Shire Council in repairing and maintaining the trail.
- Design of Nillumbug cycling jerseys. Brightly coloured, highly visible and with the distinct nillumBUG logo.
- Social rides. A regular rides program, to suit a variety of abilities.

- Website. www.nillumbug.ellis.net.au Design of a user friendly website visited by ~350 people per month.
- Bicycle maintenance class
- Support for the drive for installation of bicycle cages at Eltham station.
- Assistance to council during the development of “Nillumbik Active Community Map”, which will shortly become available. These maps show cycle paths, cycle lanes and suggested on road routes for cyclists.
- Communication to members by email regarding new rides, and updates on local cycling concerns

In 2007 and beyond, Nillumbug hopes to achieve:

- Further progress on the Diamond Creek to Hurstbridge trail.
- Commitment by Vicroads to provide bicycle lanes, or suitable alternatives, along the Windy Mile.
- Continue to press for a safe rail crossing for Eltham North, and an improvement in the bicycle path near Station Street in Eltham.
- Offer a greater variety of rides.
- Continue to work more closely with Nillumbik Council and Vicroads for better conditions for cyclists.

New members welcome!

Lisa Bendtsen, convenor, Nillumbug

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