

WA LABOR

Cycling for the Future



A Fresh Approach for WA

WA Labor Policy | February 2017

CYCLING FOR THE FUTURE

As a father of three young children in Rockingham, I know how enjoyable cycling can be for WA families. It's continuing to grow in popularity as a form of recreation and transport in our State.

It's also good for our health and good for the environment.

We know that people want to cycle but they want to do so safely with dedicated infrastructure. If there were better and safer cycling infrastructure, more people would choose to cycle to work or university, taking more cars off the road and easing congestion.

As part of WA Labor's METRONET vision for Perth, we'll make sure cycling infrastructure is better integrated with public transport, to make life easier for busy Western Australians. Every new METRONET train station will be cycle-friendly.

WA has some of the best mountain bike trails in the nation, like the Munda Biddi trail from Mundaring to Albany. We'll make sure we better market our cycling tourism to the world as part of our plan to grow tourism and create jobs.

METRONET will be a world class, integrated and coordinated public transport system that works. We'll make sure that the jobs created through our plan flow to Western Australians.

WA Labor will invest an additional \$27 million into Principal Shared Path Program, cycling grants for local councils and bike boulevards over the next four years from within the existing budget allocations.

Integrating cycling infrastructure into METRONET and urban planning is a fresh approach to transport.



Mark McGowan
WA Labor Leader



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Infrastructure

- Increase the funding to the Principal Shared Path Program to \$20 million a year by 2019-20.
- Increase the grants program for local councils to develop local cycling infrastructure and provide \$14.66 million over four years.
- Continue to fund the Bike Boulevard program and invest \$3 million each year.

Planning

- Require cycling infrastructure to be considered in all Main Roads WA projects.
- Update planning policies to provide for the integration of cycling infrastructure in new major developments.
- Organise regular forums with key government departments and local governments to ensure that there is a consistent approach to the planning of cycling infrastructure.

METRONET

- Make every new METRONET train station cycle friendly as part of the solution to Perth's traffic congestion crises.

Cyclist Safety

- Trial safe passing laws.

Cycling Tourism

- Invest \$425 million over 5 years to promote WA and showcase our beautiful state including to highlight cycling events such as the Cape to Cape mountain bike event, the Tour of Margaret River road cycling event and the Gibb Challenge mountain bike event in the Kimberley.

Supporting cycle sport and recreation

- Support the City of Swan applications for Federal funding for the proposed Regional Open Space Whiteman Park to establish a central hub for cycling.

Support Cycle awareness campaigns

- Support cycle awareness campaigns, in collaboration with the Road Safety Commission.

Promote bike security

- Undertake an awareness and education campaign about bicycle security and investigate a voluntary bicycle registration scheme.

METRONET

Improving our cycling transport infrastructure

Perth and WA has a good level of existing cycling infrastructure but there is still a lot of gaps and dead ends. People want to ride their bikes, but want to do so safely with dedicated infrastructure. This benefits everyone by reducing congestion, by getting more people out of cars.

The Kwinana Freeway Principal Shared Paths (PSP) is a world standard major cycling artery. But the Mitchell Freeway PSP has by contrast languished. We will make completing and upgrading it a priority.

There will be a focus on public transport infrastructure and cycling facilities will be a key consideration for all new train stations and upgrades to existing train stations. Cycling infrastructure will be a key consideration for all Main Roads WA new and upgrade projects.

WA Labor will invest more in PSP grants to local Government and bicycle boulevards.

A McGowan Labor Government will continue to invest in cycling infrastructure and will:

- **Increase the funding to the Principal Shared Path Program to \$20 million a year by 2019-20.**
- **Increase the grants program for local councils to develop local cycling infrastructure and provide \$14.66 million over four years.**
- **Continue to fund the Bike Boulevard program and invest \$3 million each year.**

The integration of cycling infrastructure into the planning for all new developments will significantly enhance the existing cycling infrastructure and continue to encourage cycling as a form of transport as well as a leisure activity.

A McGowan Labor Government will:

- **Require cycling infrastructure to be considered in all Main Roads WA projects.**
- **Update planning policies to provide for the integration of cycling infrastructure in new major developments.**

Local Governments do fantastic work at the front line of providing cycling infrastructure. A McGowan Labor Government will facilitate regular forums with key government departments such as Main Roads and the Department of Planning together with local governments to ensure there is a consistent approach to the planning of cycling infrastructure.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will organise regular forums with key government departments and local governments to ensure that there is a consistent approach to the planning of cycling infrastructure.**

Cycling to a METRONET Station

- **A McGowan Labor Government will make every new METRONET train station cycle friendly as part of the solution to Perth's traffic congestion crises.**

Every new METRONET station will be designed and laid out to encourage cycling. New stations will have a large Lock N Ride bike shelter which will be monitored by CCTV cameras.

The cycling strategy will be rolled out at existing stations progressively as these are upgraded.

A WA Labor Government will also work closely with local governments in developing local cycle networks to provide safe on and off road cycle routes to new METRONET stations and make it easier for more people from more suburbs to cycle to rail stations.

In congested areas around train stations, good cycle routes can result in trips on bikes being quicker than driving a car to the station and reduce the pressure on car parking at train stations.

Focus on cyclist safety

The Road Safety Commission will be tasked to undertake and independently assess a two-year trial of safe passing rules. The rules will be consistent with those used in other States, including trialling a one metre safe passing distance in speed zones of 60km/h or less.

The trial will be assessed independently before considering legislation and will include an education campaign. The Queensland trial of a minimum passing distance was a success and as a result Queensland has now introduced relevant legislation.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will trial safe passing laws which will be independently assessed.**

It will be important for the trial to be undertaken in combination with an awareness and education campaign.

Other States in Australia have undertaken a trial or legislated for a form of safe passing of cyclists. A trial is an appropriate first step, to pilot safe passing rules in WA. We will conduct a two-year trial, as has been done in other States.

Investment in Tourism

A McGowan Labor Government will inject \$425 million over five years to establish WA as one of the world's great tourist destinations and support the tourism and hospitality sectors to create jobs and diversify the economy.

Western Australia has many unique cycling locations and distinctive experiences and is an integral part of our plan to diversify the economy and grow our tourism sector across WA.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will invest \$425 million over 5 years to promote WA and showcase our beautiful state including to highlight cycling events such as the Cape to Cape mountain bike event, the Tour of Margaret River road cycling event and the Gibb Challenge mountain bike event in the Kimberley.**

Our world leading destination experiences include:

- The MundaBiddi mountain bike trail from Mundaring to Albany is one of the longest continuous mountain bike trails in the world and takes in many of the South West's favourite locations.
- Feature mountain biking destinations in our South West include Collie and Wellington, Margaret River and Pemberton.
- The Perth Hills, a challenging road cycling experience.

WA Labor will also support a feature event to showcase Perth Hills road cycling climbs.

Tourism is a key focus of WA Labor's plan to create jobs and broaden our economy beyond resources. Figures provided by Tourism Council WA show that the industry employs 94,000 people and inserts \$9.3 billion in the WA economy.

This will be supported by the establishment of Brand WA.

Brand WA will provide a global toolkit of consistent concepts, packaging and messaging that will promote our wonderful State and its unique experiences to the rest of the world.

The economic benefits that come from a Brand WA have a broad contribution to the regional economy in terms of manufacturing, business investment, job creation, agriculture, hospitality and export opportunities.

Supporting cycle sport and recreation

Cycle sport is an exciting and healthy endeavour open to the whole population. From the youngest kids in BMX through to masters, people are embracing cycling.

WA has a proud cycle sport heritage, with numerous National and World Champions, Olympians and recent Tour de France participants.

But cycle sport in WA is still to reach its full potential. In particular, more and more children could be involved in this safe and friendly community. To do this there needs to be more support for facilities.

There should be a central hub for cycling. The proposed Regional Open Space Whiteman Park presents an exciting opportunity for a number of cycle sport facilities to be co-located, including outdoor BMX and velodrome, learn to ride, cycle paths, road racing circuit and criterion bicycle tracks.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will support the City of Swan applications for Federal funding for the proposed Regional Open Space Whiteman Park to establish a central hub for cycling.**

Support Cycle awareness campaigns

Bike-riding awareness is vital to encouraging people to take up cycling. All forms of cycling should be promoted, in conjunction with a strong awareness campaign about road rules and safety.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will support cycle awareness campaigns, in collaboration with the Road Safety Commission.**

Promote bike security

Too many of us know the disappointment of bicycle theft. Bikes are going missing too often. When found, many are not collected and are not being reunited with their owners.

- **A McGowan Labor Government will undertake an awareness and education campaign about bicycle security and investigate a voluntary bicycle registration scheme.**

A registration scheme would assist in helping recovered bicycles being returned to their owners.

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Improving our cycling transport infrastructure

Focus on cyclist safety

Investment in tourism

Supporting cycle sport and recreation

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markmcgowan.com.au/cycling |  **Mark McGowan MP**