

Capital City Trail - Missing Link

From the Bicycle Victoria website....

CUB brewery path and Gipps St steps

The Main Yarra Trail between the Walmer St Bridge in Richmond (Melway map 2H F2) and Collins Bridge at Gipps St in Abbotsford is of poor quality and requires a long hill climb in Yarra Bend Park and dangerous entry points to bridges (a cyclist suffered paraplegia as a result of hitting a bollard). At Gipps St a flight of steps takes trail users down to river level but restricts access to the trail for families with trailers or child seats on the bike, tandems, recumbents and anyone unable to carry their bike up or down the steps. Frail walkers and wheelchairs users are also prevented from using the trail.

The City of Yarra is investigating an alternative alignment of the trail, which would involve continuing the trail on the Abbotsford side around the back of the CUB brewery (see Melway map 2D C12). This would not only eliminate the steep steps but also the steep climb on the Boroondara side of the river.

Yarra Bicycle Users Group supports this development, and we strongly advise cyclists and pedestrians to write letter to both Richard Wynne and City of Yarra, including *YOUR* personal reasons such as,

- Reduction of commuting time,
- Improvement of access and safety issues to Collin Bridge/Gipps Street via the re-development of the approaches for both pedestrians and cyclists,
- Greater access for all trail users, see above,
- Significant benefits for the local community - building a vital missing link on the Capital City Trail.

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