



Pedal Power

ACT Inc.

Dr Hanna Jaireth
Secretary
Standing Committee on Planning and Environment
ACT Legislative Assembly

31 March 2005

Dear Hanna

RE: Development Embassy Motel Development

Below we provide options for encouraging more walking and cycling to school - consistent with the ACT Government's Sustainable Transport Plan which aims to increase walking, cycling and public transport usage.

This issue is well-covered in Report Number 4 of the ACT Legislative Assembly's Standing Committee on Health (April 2003) which discusses the benefits from, and possibilities of, increasing walking and cycling to school. Not only is there reduced traffic and reduced need for car parking but children benefit from improved mental and physical health and there are wider environmental benefits. Rather than quoting this report, we strongly recommend that the committee read the relevant section of the report (p99-104), which we strongly endorse.

We also note that ACTPLA has instigated walking school buses at some primary schools (eg Majura Primary School at Watson). This also provides another option.

This year Pedal Power will run a pilot Bike Education program in two primary schools. The program aims to increase cycling skills and road safety. This program could also encourage cycling

Yours sincerely

Tony Shields
Advocacy Team Leader, Pedal Power ACT
Ph 6262 5150