

# MEDIA RELEASE

## **BICYCLE NSW PEDALS UP TO DELIVER SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS FOR THE STATE**

**Sydney, Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2007**

*Immediate release*

The broad and positive community impacts of cycling are clearly reflected in the Bicycle NSW Policy Recommendations released today. Cycling provides solutions to the economic and social challenges the state faces with climate change, the childhood obesity epidemic and the traffic congestion clogging our cities.

In the lead up to the NSW State Election, the recommendations centre on the need for 'whole of government' leadership, to assist in delivering outcomes that will make sure the state of New South Wales is healthy, has workable sustainable transport solutions and is 'open for business'.

Bicycle NSW is committed to making our cities and communities more 'liveable' and upholds the strong contribution that cycling makes across our community.

"Cycling is beneficial in a wide range of ways, being particularly important in greenhouse gas emission reduction, increasing physical activity, and unblocking traffic congestion in our cities," explains Bicycle NSW CEO, Alex Unwin.

Safety is another key focus for the community and the Policy Recommendations advocate education programs, working together with other key stakeholders, to provide a safe environment for all road users. National initiatives on riding to work and school are fundamental.

Cycle-tourism events, such as the NSW Big Ride (17-25 March), generate a much needed boost to regional economies, in an environmentally sustainable and healthy way. Increased investment in cycling infrastructure will facilitate this booming industry.

The Liberal/National Coalition and the Greens Party will present their cycling policy approach to Bicycle NSW before the election. The ALP and the Climate Change Coalition have been invited to follow suit. A 'scorecard' analysis of the policies will follow.

Bicycle NSW, the peak cycling community and advocacy organisation in New South Wales, demonstrates that cycling is one of the most healthy, affordable and environmentally sustainable forms of transport available.

More important, cycling has the potential to significantly improve the quality of life in our towns and cities, generate sustainable economic benefit, as well as positively impacting community health, traffic congestion and climate change.

### **More information:**

Download the Bicycle NSW Policy Recommendations: <http://www.bicyclensw.org.au/PolicyRecommendations.html>

NSW Big Ride: <http://www.bigride.com.au/>

### **Issued by Bicycle NSW:**

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**Bicycle New South Wales** is a member-funded and -owned, not-for-profit peak community organisation established in 1976 as the Bicycle Institute of NSW, changing to its present name in 1994.

### **Bicycle NSW Mission**

To promote, advocate, and support cycling in all its forms as an environmentally sustainable and healthy form of transport, recreation and tourism through the engagement of government, industry and the community at all levels.

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