

Dear SPR and RAC members,

Thank you for considering to give me your support for re-election to the RAC council. As the only transport planner on the RAC Council, I feel that my experience is needed to provide a balance view on the Council that compliments the different skills of other councillors.

Over the years, I have been a strong advocate for improving cycling and public transport in Perth, to reduce dependence on cars and to assist in reducing congestion and making the city more accessible for more people.

I have written widely and given many presentations advocating measures to increase the mode share of cycling from its current level of under 2% to more than 6% by 2030. In my current term as a councillor, I convened a workshop in 2014, hosted by the RAC, that was attended by more than 70 planners and engineers from state and local governments and private consultants that endorsed this view and committed to developing a plan of action.

I have provided advice to and developed holistic cycling improvement plans for many local governments including Perth, Stirling, Rockingham, Wanneroo, Canning and Bunbury. A core part of this advice has been the need to provide more connected, safer bicycle routes that connect to activity centres, schools, universities, train stations etc. using the best practice, Dutch and Danish planning principles, that have proved so successful in increasing cycling and improving safety. I have provided research findings to local governments and the Department of Transport that demonstrates the success of this approach outside of Europe. For example, in Portland (USA), a city the same size as Perth, bicycle usage increased from 2% to 8% over 12 years using this approach.

I believe we are now well on the way to achieving consensus on best practice transport planning in Perth, but there remains a major challenge - funding for cycling initiatives must be increased or the plan will not be implemented.

I am also currently providing advice to Bicycling WA on cycling advocacy matters and am proposing that state government funding for cycling be doubled in the next term of government and that this be matched by local governments.

Re-election this year is competitive with 10 candidates for only 5 positions. Your support for my re-election will help me continue my advocacy for cycling on the RAC council which has been founded on my experience as a transport planner. Voting forms can be found in the current Horizons magazine from the RAC. If you wish to vote for me, place an X in the box opposite my name. You may vote for more than one person but there is no need to do so. Importantly, your vote will be invalid if you vote for more than 5 people.

I am always available to assist with any issues you may have regarding your RAC membership, or to discuss road safety, congestion, transport planning and related matters.

Yours sincerely,

Emmerson Richardson BSc (Eng), MSc (Eng), MBA, MIEAust, MIHT

Member RAC Council, Institution of Engineers Australia, Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation (UK). Member Advisory Board of the Centre for Built Environment and Health (CBEH) at the University of Western Australia. Member Transport and Congestion Taskforce, Committee for Perth.