

Program Overview

In 1999, the US Centers for Disease Control noted that “the dramatic reduction in motor vehicle injuries and deaths has been declared one of the ten greatest public health accomplishments of the twentieth century”, but these achievements cannot be sustained without major intervention at all levels and for all road users.

In Victoria, the roads are shared by a diverse group – drivers, passengers, motorcyclists, cyclists, and pedestrians – whose needs are not always in harmony with each other. Although more drivers and motorcyclists are killed and injured on the roads than pedestrians and cyclists, the needs of pedestrians and cyclists are not considered to nearly the same extent as those of motorised road users.

Whilst the aim of sharing the roads should apply to all road users, in the case of pedestrians and cyclists, the application is a long way from the rhetoric. Why this is the case is not clear. Their lack of physical protection, however, suggests that more attention should be devoted to strategies to share the roads more equitably with this vulnerable group. They are, after all, helping to decrease traffic congestion by cycling and walking.

This seminar aims to present the statewide strategic context, the nature of the injury burden faced by pedestrians and cyclists, and to present snapshots of some innovative safety programs directed towards their protection.

The audience will be invited to participate in a moderated discussion and creative thinking session to identify the gaps in the available interventions and generate potential solutions to fill those gaps. The findings will be presented to RoadSafe Inner Melbourne for further development to enable them to assist local communities to developing local policies, education campaigns and action plans.

The Facilitator

Lisa Smith, of Minds At Work, is a lively and agile-minded facilitator who is tuned in to community needs and issues. She has recently worked with a variety of groups including fire fighters, SES, farmers, teachers, principals, corporate high-fliers, 'community builders', and truck builders, in developing visions and strategic plans, and resolving challenging dilemmas. She has the empathy and humour to lead our workshop through the rigours and emotions of our debate on Vulnerable Road Users.

Where

Richmond Town Hall
333 Bridge Road, Richmond
9205 5555
Melways ref 44 F9 or 2H B6

How to get there

Trams 48 or 75 from Flinders St to Bridge Road.
Limited parking is available in carparks close to the Town Hall, including an above-ground carpark in Gleadell St.

**Please RSVP to Barbara by 17 August - vscn.vscn@rch.org.au
or 9345 5193**



Sharing the road: improving safety for pedestrians and cyclists

Wednesday 22 August 2007, 9:00 am to 12.30 pm

Hosted by the City of Yarra

PROGRAM

8.30-9.00	Registration (<i>tea and coffee</i>)
9.00-9.10	Welcome <i>Cr Jacky Fristacky, City of Yarra</i>
9.10-9.25	Pedestrian and cyclist safety in Victoria <i>Nial Finegan, VicRoads</i>
9.25-9.40	The injury burden for pedestrians and cyclists <i>Erin Cassell, Monash University Accident Research Centre</i>
9.40-9.55	Reducing on-road harassment of cyclists <i>Dr Jan Garrard, Deakin University</i>
9.55-10.30	The good, the bad and the ugly: making roads friendlier in local communities <i>Cr Karen Sait, Chair, RoadSafe Inner Melbourne</i> <i>Richard Smithers, City of Yarra</i> <i>Jason den Hollander, Bicycle Victoria</i> <i>Alison Lee, City of Melbourne</i> <i>Meg Selman, City of Port Phillip</i>
10.30-11.00	Morning tea
11.00-12.10	Developing creative solutions for pedestrians and cyclists <i>Lisa Smith, Minds at Work</i>
12.10-12.25	VSCN open forum <i>James Sherry, VSCN Co-Chair</i>
12.25-12.30	Close and thanks <i>Jan Shield, VSCN Co-Chair</i>
12.30-1.00	Lunch