green building council australia

Building a sustainable future

Standards Australia
GPO Box 476
SYDNEY NSW 2001

26 June 2014

Dear Sir or Madam

RE: DR 10132 PARKING FACILITIES – PART 3: BIKE PARKING FACILITIES

The Green Building Council of Australia (GBCA) welcomes the opportunity to provide comment on the draft Bike Parking Facilities standard. The GBCA supports a review and update of this standard, but urges Standards Australia to carefully consider any changes that may result in an increased cost in provision of facilities.

About the GBCA

The GBCA is the nation's authority on sustainable buildings, communities and cities. Our mission is to accelerate the transformation of Australia's built environment into one that is healthy, liveable, productive, resilient and sustainable. We work together with industry and government to encourage policies and programs that support our mission. We educate thousands of people each year on how to design and deliver sustainable outcomes for our buildings, communities and cities. We operate Australia's only national voluntary and holistic rating system for sustainable buildings and communities – Green Star.

Green Star and alternative transport

The first Green Star rating tool was released in 2003 in response to market demand for a rating tool that would evaluate the sustainable design and construction of buildings as well as establish a common language for buildings.

The Green Star rating system can be applied to almost all building types. Over 700 projects have now achieved Green Star certification across Australia, with a further 460 projects registered. The Green Star rating system is designed to take an holistic approach within each class and building sector, addressing nine categories in total; Management, Indoor Environment Quality (IEQ), Energy, Water, Materials, Land Use and Ecology, Emissions, Innovation and Transport and defining 'best practice' in each.

The aim of The Transport category is to reward the reduction of demand for individual cars by both discouraging car commuting and encouraging the use of alternative transport. Provision of end-of-trip facilities (including bike parking facilities) is recognised and rewarded in the Transport category which references AS2890.3-1993 Parking facilities – Part 3: Bike parking facilities as the accepted standard. The GBCA supports a review and update of this standard, but where proposed changes, such as increasing the space requirements of bike parking, may result in increasing the cost of providing facilities, we urge Standards Australia to consider how this may impact the ability of developers and building owners to provide bike parking facilities that meet and exceed minimum requirements.

ABN 43 100 789 937
Phone +61 2 8239 6200
Fax +61 2 8252 8223
Email info@gbca.org.au
Address Level 15/179 Elizabeth Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Postal PO Box Q78 QVB NSW 1230
Website gbca.org.au

All levels of government, industry and the community are increasingly recognising the range of benefits associated with encouraging walking, cycling and using public transport. The GBCA advocates for contemporary regulation, policies and benchmarks to support better outcomes for the built environment. We believe that a well-considered update of this standard will be an important part of a coordinated approach in encouraging the uptake of cycling as an alternative mode of transport.

In addition, as part of your review, it would be worthwhile investigating a possible interaction between the number and size of bike parking spaces and the availability of cycling infrastructure (such as dedicated lanes) and density in a particular area. There could be merit in having different requirements for bike parking depending on these or other external factors.

Please do not hesitate to contact me via email at katy.dean@gbca.org.au, or by phone on 02 8239 6200, should you require further information or clarification. The GBCA looks forward to continuing to work with Standards Australia towards a more productive, sustainable, liveable and resilient built environment.

Yours faithfully

Katy Dean
Director – Advocacy