



Bike North Press Release – Special Event – The M2 Handicap.

Friday, March 09, 2007

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Transurban, the owners of the Hills M2 Motorway will, the day after the state election, ban cyclists from the westbound section of the motorway from Lane Cove Rd to Beecroft Rd. They offered an ‘alternative route’ that is woefully inadequate to the needs of an ever growing group of commuters – cyclists.

To demonstrate this, a local cyclist advocacy group, Bike North, has devised a special event - the M2 Handicap.

Bruce Thomas, four times Australian Ultra-Distance Triathlon Champion and multiple Australian Triathlete of the Year winner together with Chris Smith, winner of the U23 Men’s Australian 24 Hour Solo Mountain Bike Race and winner of Sport Men NSW Mountain Bike Series will take on some everyday cyclists to prove that two of Australia’s best cyclists are no match for the too winding, too hilly proposed route.

The elite athletes will give their all along the ‘alternate’ while everyday ‘mums and dads’ trundle the soon to be removed motorway cycle lane to show that even cycling’s best will be beaten by Transurban’s short-sightedness.

In order to cater for a new third traffic lane, cyclists have been treated as second class citizens by being pushed off the M2 and onto a range of unsafe, high traffic roads and footpaths. The so called ‘alternate route’ is so hard to ride, the average daily cycling commuter will be forced back into their car – negating any possible benefits of the extra traffic lane.

All cyclists, including staff of the Transurban (owners of the M2 motorway), the RTA are welcome to take part in this special event. Can you beat the professionals? This will be your best chance ever.

The challenge, appropriately nicknamed the “M2 handicap” will be run on 14th March 2007.
Line up at 4:40pm for a 5:00pm.start.

Corner: Lane Cove Road and Talavera Road (east side). Be there.

For further information

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