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• Bicycle Transportation Alliance members Steven McKiernan and Valentin Vilette say it's high time cyclists are made to feel welcome on city streets. *Photo by Jeremy Dixon*

Have your say on Perth bike plan

by **KATIE BASTIANS**

THE public has till the end of the month to comment on Perth city council's cycle plan.

PCC director of planning Peter Monks hopes the first draft will be ready by November.

Bicycle Transportation Alliance convenor Steven McKiernan welcomes the plan but is hoping for more.

"Perth is still a very unfriendly place to ride," he says. "There needs to be a minimum number of bike racks and end of trip facilities."

Mr Monks says restoring two-way traffic can stop cars using streets as a speedway,

allowing pedestrians and cyclists back into the street environment without having to introduce dedicated bike lanes.

"There may well be a dedicated on-road facility on one or two streets but they certainly won't be on every street," he said.

"The only ones we are looking at the moment have been Wellington and Barrack and we are considering investing in one on Murray Street. There will be a large part of the city where it is a shared arrangement and perhaps just at intersections where bikes will have a head start facility so they can get away quicker at the lights."

Mr McKiernan says just

giving a head start to cyclists doesn't send a clear enough message. He adds the PCC's multi-million dollar plan to make St Georges Terrace more pedestrian-friendly seems to have left cyclists out.

Feedback can be sent to www.perth.wa.gov.au/cycleplan.

WA transport minister Simon O'Brien still isn't saying how the Barnett government intends spending the extra \$17 million it has raked in from higher parking levies. He told the *Voice* that CAT buses had started operating 17 hours longer from August 1 but shadow minister Ken Travers says that's insignificant compared to the extra cash being raked in.