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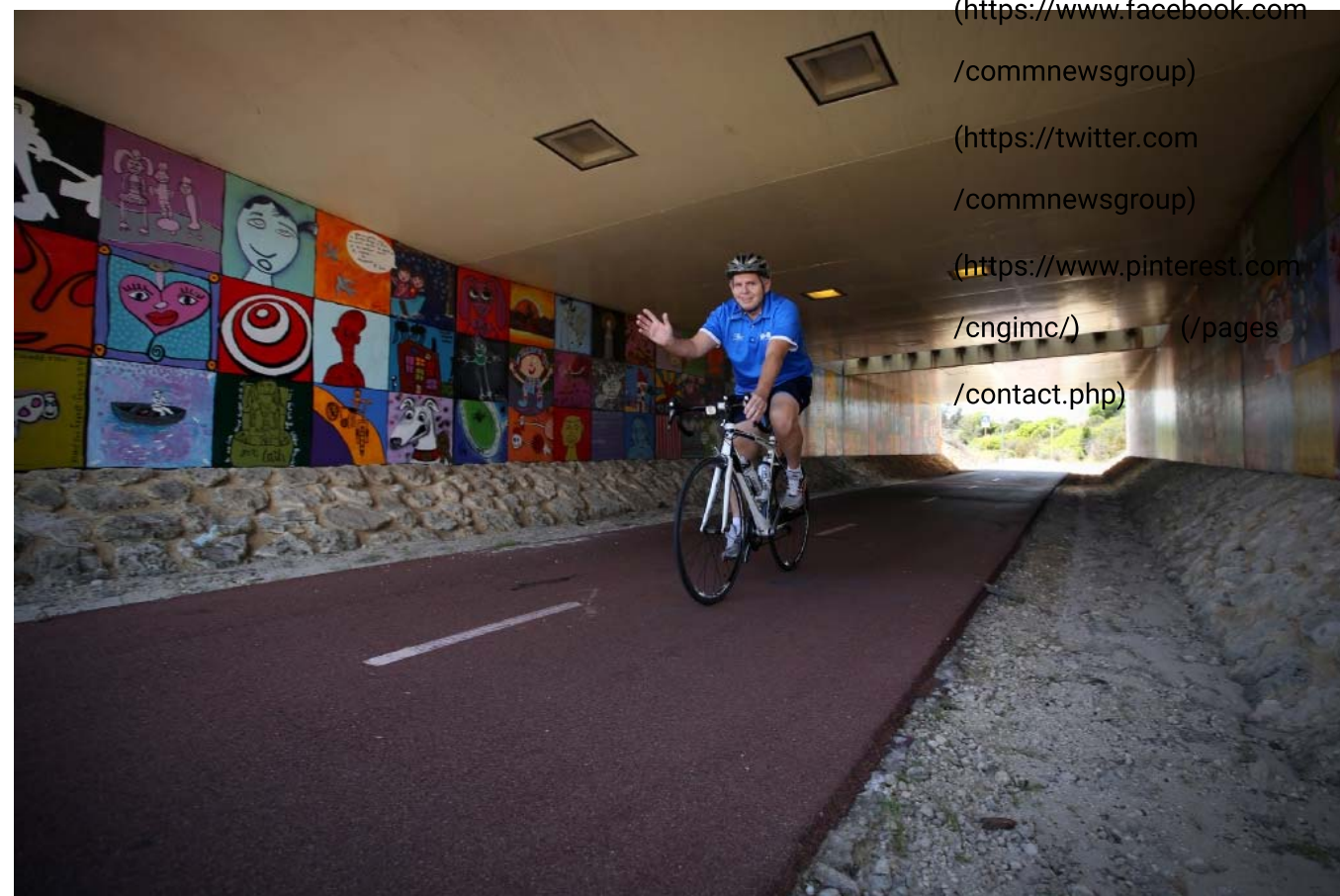
Better paths key, chief says

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Francis Curro | October 13, 2015, 1:00 AM | COMMENT NEWS



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Bicycle Western Australia chief Jeremy Murray on a bike path near Parkwood. Picture: Andrew Ritchie
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IMPROVED infrastructure and getting rid of the stigma of fear of being hit by a car is the key to getting West Australians cycling, according to the chief executive of Bicycle Western Australia.

Tomorrow is Ride2Work Day, and Jeremy Murray said the number one reason people don't ride is the fear of being hit by a car.

The aim of Ride2Work Day is to encourage Australians to get on their bike and ride to work, and Mr Murray said it would be good to see a mutual respect between cyclist and drivers when it came to using roads.

"The first thing we don't need is media beating up a story about car versus bike and bike rage," he said.

"The perceived fear is the number one reason why people don't ride a bike."

Mr Murray said WA had seen improvements on cycle paths, especially on the freeway path from Mandurah to the

Perth CBD, which he described as “world class”.

“It is a challenge connecting the suburbs,” he said.

“The State Government and local councils investing in good infrastructure in bike lanes can encourage people to ride bikes.

“If they see the designated space, they can see it is easy to go from home to work.”

An Australian Bicycle Council survey found WA had the highest cycling participation in Australia.

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