

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into the Increase in Victoria's Road Toll

Mr Denis Ackland  
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**SUBMISSION CONTENT:**

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These things have been a contentious issue for me for years and I THINK the reason it has been pushed down our necks is that a misinformed government signed a binding contract for the supply and maintenance of WRBs last decade. I first made an appointment with my local member (Gary Blackwood) over 10 years ago about the removal of vast amount of tea tree soft barrier on the Princes Hwy from Nar Nar Goon to Traralgon to make way for WRBs. Tea tree stands reduce the glare of oncoming headlights, are effective at noise attenuation and make oxygen - also note that a loaded B double went into them near Tynong, didn't come out the other side and was driven away after being towed out! I will never understand why available funds are NOT spent on driver training and situational awareness!!! The skill level of drivers (and riders) is plummeting on a daily basis. Furthermore, there is zero supporting evidence that the reduction in Victoria's road toll is attributed to WRBs, 'statistics' appear manipulated to support beliefs, or attempts to justify decisions. I have driven extensively all over the world (cars, trucks, tractors and motorcycles) for most of my 66 years and the 'solutions' to reducing the road toll in this country are abominable. Note that many EU countries are taking WRBs down. Also speed limits appear set for the lowest denominator and in many cases are ridiculously low! Vehicles now have lane recognition, air bags, parking aids, 'blind spot' alerts etc.,.....all for people who lack skills.  
The best way to reduce the road toll is to NOT CRASH....!!

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File1:

File2:

File3: