

New Submission to Inquiry into the Increase in Victoria's Road Toll

Inquiry into the Increase in Victoria's Road Toll

Wed 06/05/2020 20:59

To: roadtollinquiry <roadtollinquiry@parliament.vic.gov.au>

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

Benjamin Cronshaw



SUBMISSION CONTENT:

--

I appreciate this Inquiry into Road Safety.

Creating cycling safe infrastructure will help reduce the road toll from collisions with cyclists. Cyclists are at an inherent disadvantage when it comes to collisions. Sometimes someone within the protective space of a car would be safe, but someone on a bike could be seriously damaged from the impact or falling. I think public policy should be proactive about the sort of transport system that would be best for the community. Perhaps there is a sense of inertia that we need to have more focus on roads because people drive cars, and then people drive cars because the infrastructure is designed for cars. Building more roads to ease congestion is a very short-term solution, as the congestion will quickly increase to fill the new space.

I think we should be more intentional about the types of transport that we support. Supporting for low-emissions travel such as cycling should be integrated that within plans for infrastructure. From the outset of infrastructure planning, there should be strong consideration for cycling, walking and access to public transport. That will assist in creating a more liveable and sustainable urban environment. The more people that use public transport or cycling paths or other options, the less people that are contributing to road congestion. Personally, I am an avid user of public transport.

Driverless cars are also an interesting idea. Perhaps they are too far in the future to be within the scope of this Inquiry, but I think they could end up reducing fatalities on the road by reducing human error. There is naturally some unease about such technologies, but they may be safer on average than human drivers. Smart technology I think is a good interim measure.

--

File1:

File2:

File3: