

Economy and Infrastructure Committee

Legislative Council

LCLC@parliament.vic.gov.au

EVIC 3002

Re Submission to Inquiry into proposed legislation relating to minimum distance when overtaking bicycles

Dear Committee

I write to address the terms of reference of the inquiry into Road Safety Road Rules 2009 (Overtaking Bicycles) Bill 2015 and, in particular the enforcement of these rules

I write as a person who enjoys riding on roads but often chooses not to as I believe the risk of serious to fatal injury is too high at many times and on many roads. Where I calculate the risk to be less – on quite roads at quite times, I do ride on the roads.

The enforcement issue is of interest to me

I believe enforcement will be possible if evidence from electronic footage is allowable. Many riders wear portable cameras, and this evidence should be allowed to assist in enforcement

In regards to enforcement of current laws – I believe the current situation where drivers go over double lines to pass cyclists is a problem. The law that prohibits drivers crossing double lines is ignored thousands of times on a daily basis. Enforcement of this law is also ignored by police. Having a law which is intentionally ignored by the enforcement agency is not a desirable situation and consideration should be given to this in the decision making

Consideration should also be given to how to stop drivers passing bicycles in areas where sight line of oncoming vehicles is hindered. Currently double lines mark areas where sightline is hindered, but these are designed for situations where a vehicle is passing a vehicle. Consideration should be given to marking roads where sightlines are so blocked that even a cycle should not be passed. This may be in the form of another line on the road in particular areas of very tight corners, narrow roads and high cycle use.

I appreciate the opportunity to make a submission

Yours Sue McKinnon



Sue McKinnon



24/03/2016