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From: Inquiry into Overtaking Bicycles POV eSubmission Form
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To: LCLC
Subject: New Submission to Inquiry into the Road Safety Road Rules 2009 (Overtaking Bicycles) Bill 2015

Inquiry Name: Inquiry into the Road Safety Road Rules 2009 (Overtaking Bicycles) Bill 2015

Mr Will Fooks
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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this bill.

I'm a professional Transport Planner with 15 years' industry experience. I have a Masters in Transport Planning from Imperial College London and a Degree in Town Planning and Urban Design from the University of Melbourne.

In my experience transport and cycling policy issues cannot be resolved by a single policy change in isolation. Reviewing this law into 'safe passing distances' is unlikely to measurably improve road safety or achieve wider aims to increase cycling to support economic development/environmental aims...etc

Rather, legislation needs to be drafted to create more onus on drivers to drive safely in all circumstances. Strict liability models should be considered.

We need to create accountability on car drivers (which I am) and make us accountable for the fact that we are in charge of a potentially lethal instrument when we get behind a wheel. This approach will improve the safety of all road users – including car drivers. There are too many excuses made.

The dire 2016 road safety statistics support that more needs to be done, and the current trend suggests that our approach to road safety needs a rethink.

Cities that are actually getting more people to cycle - and have far better safety records than Victoria - have holistic strategies that are clear on cycling being a critical mode that supports the economic potential of the city. Melbourne needs this rather than reviews of isolated pieces of legislation.

Regards,
Will Fooks