

From: Inquiry into Overtaking Bicycles POV eSubmission Form
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Sent: Wednesday, 16 March 2016 3:42 PM
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 Lee Turner
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President
 St Kilda Cycling Club
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SUBMISSION CONTENT:

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Existing road rules should be amended to specify the minimum distances drivers must allow when overtaking bike riders. A metre matters calls for the current wording in the road rules to be changed from 'sufficient distance' to:

- 1m in speed zones up to and including 60km/h
- 1.5m in speed zones over 60km/h

This will help to reduce crashes between motor vehicles and bike riders.

a metre matters because:

- It reduces the risk of crashes when drivers overtake bike riders
- Over 1 in 10 of all bike rider crashes in Victoria involve a vehicle overtaking a bike rider
- Bike riders are legitimate and vulnerable road users who need space when sharing the road with drivers
- It is a practical measurement for drivers
- Better infrastructure is critical for safe cycling but we cannot afford to wait for safe cycling infrastructure to be built. Separated bike lanes will never be in every street in Australia. An immediate way to make bike riders safer is for drivers to give them enough space
- Awareness is not enough – education, legislation and enforcement for behaviour change is needed.

Driver education is severely lacking as many drivers just don't know the road rules concerning cyclists. An education program for all road users is paramount so drivers are aware simple things like riders being allowed to ride two abreast is actually legal.

Thanks.

Lee Turner.
President
St Kilda Cycling Club

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File1:

File2:

File3: