

From: office@greens.org.au on behalf of Saskia van Weel via Australian Greens
<office@greens.org.au>
Sent: Thursday, 17 March 2016 1:39 PM
To: LCLC
Subject: Submission to Inquiry into the Road Safety Road Rules 2009 (Overtaking Bicycles) Bill 2015

This e-mail has been sent on behalf of Ms Saskia van Weel, at [REDACTED]. They can be contacted by phone at na or by e-mail at [REDACTED]. The content of their submission is below.

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I support safe passing distance laws for cars and trucks overtaking bicycles, so we can all share the road safely.

When bike riding is safer, more people will leave their cars at home. This will mean better health, less congestion on our roads and less pollution.

I agree with the Committee's decision to look at the examples of Queensland, ACT and Tasmania where safe passing laws have been introduced, or are being trialled, and how to run a public education campaign about the rule change.

When the new mobile phone rules came in, most drivers learned the rule quickly because it was in the news. An education campaign is more effective when it tells drivers a new road rule.

We are all in this together. There is no 'us' and 'them', safe passing distance laws make our roads safer for everyone.

My input so far;

Also the Beach Road in the Bayside and the path along the Yarra in South Yarra is a shared road for cycling AND walkers!!

One has to cycle and walk in one direction HOPING that the cyclist will ring or say something when passing you!
No way only a few do it!

Thus I walk on the shared path only fit for ONE person on foot or on BIke towards the cyclist coming to me.

I prefer to see the oncoming traffic then getting a fright, because the cyclist if not ringing or calling out! I have to look after myself if Council or any law maker is not aware of this danger!

Being Dutch (look at Sweden and Denmark) one should go there and I know one in Federal Parliament with Stephen Hodge, the Wheelrenner, we all know and people in St Kilda Town Hall went to Holland and cycled there and saw the results!

The results are not being implemented of what one does overseas rather than to think to invent it oneself!!

Pedestrians and cyclist NEVER should share a path that is only fit for one person each way.

It is one path for cyclists and one path for pedestrians! For me that is common sense if you like the people (whose tax money will be spend on these safety rules to feel safe and to enjoy walking and cycling!

I was informed the Bayside spent millions on the Beach Road shared paths, but did they really invest time for safety rules and common sense attitude!

I love cycling and walking, but wont go on these shared paths not on a bike or by foot!

Will people really listen and look and care??

Good luck,

Yours faithfully;

Saskia van Weel.