25 JUN 2009

Ms Alexandra Douglas
Road Safety Committee
Parliament of Victoria
Parliament House
Spring Street
East Melbourne Vic 3002

Dear Ms Douglas

Re: Submission to the Inquiry into Pedestrian Safety in Car Parks

Thank you for your letter dated 23 April 2009 requesting submissions for the Inquiry into Pedestrian Safety in Car Parks.

Queensland is not currently undertaking any initiatives in this area.

We would be very interested in the findings from your Inquiry, and would appreciate a copy of the report when it becomes available.

In Queensland, road crashes are recorded in the RoadCrash database kept by the Department of Transport and Main Roads (the department). The RoadCrash database contains information and characteristics of crashes, casualties and units involved in crashes within Queensland. However, information on crashes occurring within car parks is not included in the RoadCrash database; therefore, we are unable to provide you with the data you are seeking on car park related fatalities or injuries.

Background information detailing the gathering of road crash statistics is provided below for the Inquiry into Pedestrian Safety in Car Parks. I trust this information will be of assistance.

Road crash data inclusion requirements
Information held in the department’s RoadCrash database relating to crashes occurring within the last 12 months is considered preliminary, as investigations into crashes can take up to 12 months to finalise.
To qualify as valid (in scope), crashes in Queensland must meet one of the following criteria:

- the crash occurred on a public road; and
- a person was killed or injured; or
- at least one vehicle was towed away; or
- the value of property damage was:
  - $2500 damage to property other than vehicles (after 1 December 1999)
  - $2500 damage to vehicle and property (after 1 December 1991 and prior to 1 December 1999)
  - $1000 damage to property (prior to 1 December 1991)

Casualties caused directly and exclusively by a medical condition, suicide or other deliberate act (such as homicide), or where the casualty is not attributable to vehicle movement (such as an insect or animal bite, or the accidental discharge of a weapon) are excluded. However, subsequent casualties caused as a result of the excluded casualties are included.

For example, if a controller suffers a heart attack and subsequently dies and is involved in a road traffic crash which results in a pedestrian fatality, the pedestrian fatality is included although the controller fatality is excluded.

**Road crash**

For the purposes of Queensland, the definition of a road crash is any apparently unpremeditated event reported to the police or other relevant authority and resulting in death, personal injury, or property damage attributable to the movement of a road vehicle on a road or road related area. Crashes occurring entirely in an off road area may be reported, but are excluded from official statistics.

**Road**

For the purposes of Queensland, a road is defined as: An area that is open to or used by the public and is developed for or has as one of its main uses, the driving or riding of motor vehicles.

Excluding:

- road shoulder which for a kerbed road is the kerb; and for a sealed road, is any unsealed part of the road and any sealed part of the road outside an edge line on the road;
- other road related area, as defined below; and
- roads which have been temporarily or permanently closed by either a sign, gate, or other fixed obstruction.
Special types of Roads and road related areas excluded, unless gazetted as a public road, are:

- drive in business enterprises (petrol stations, drive in theatres and food outlets);
- Government and private enterprise car parks (regional shopping centres, showgrounds, race tracks and railway stations);
- roads and related areas on private property;
- wharves, jetties and boat ramps;
- camping grounds and caravan car parks; and
- beaches, picnic spots (but not those used everyday as roads e.g. Rainbow beach).

**Road Related**

For the purposes of Queensland, the definition of a road related area includes the following:

- an area that divides a road (median strips, separators, traffic islands, embayments and other area used for parking in the centre of the road);
- a footpath or nature strip adjacent to a road (within the nature strip, embayments and other areas at the site of the road used for parking);
- an area that is not a road and that is open to the public and designated for use by cyclists or animals (bicycle paths and separated footpaths); and
- the road shoulder which for a kerbed road is the kerb; and for a sealed road, is any unsealed part of the road and any sealed part of the road outside an edge line on the road.

and excludes:

- an area that is not a road and is open to the public for driving, riding or parking vehicles (drive-in theatres, petrol stations, parking stations, shopping centre car parks, etc); and
- the road, as defined above.

If you require any further information, please call Mr Warren Anderson, Land Transport and Safety on (07) 3253 4373.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

David Stewart

**Director-General**

**Transport and Main Roads**