



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES
Jo Clay MLA (Chair), Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy), Mark Parton MLA

Submission No 3 – Evangelos Adoniou

Inquiry into the impact of revised speed limits in Civic – Petitions 31-21 and 38-21

Received - 8/10/21

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Submission from: Evangelos Adoniou

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October 10th, 2021

To the Committee Members

I wish to express my concern about the ‘sudden’ and ‘quiet’ change of the speed limit on Northbourne Ave in Civic to 40km.

I was very surprised to receive a speeding fine of \$301 for an offence on the 31st July. I was travelling at 46km in a 40km zone on Northbourne Ave near London Circuit.

I had been unaware of the speed limit change, and do not recall seeing any signage or hearing any public announcements. I do not travel this route very often, as I usually stay in my local area and rarely ‘cross the lake’, but in all my years here in Canberra – since 1984 – this had not been a 40km zone.

As you can see, I was only travelling at 46km, well within my expectation that I was in a 50km zone. I have always understood that the general ‘built up’ zone speed limit in Canberra is 50km.

A \$301 fine for 6km is a lot – especially as I am semi retired and carry a seniors card. Nonetheless I have paid the fine, as a good citizen. However I do wish to register my dismay at the poorly announced and poorly signed change to the speed limit on that very small section of Northbourne Ave.

I do believe more prominent signage, including the flashing lights that other jurisdictions put in place in pedestrian heavy zones would be more appropriate – particularly given this is a major arterial road through the city, and drivers would not ordinarily expect they would need to slow to 40km for a short section of this major thoroughfare.

I note that kind of prominent signage is put in place on the same road further towards Commonwealth bridge when Floriade has been underway. Doing so, instils confidence that the purpose of the 40km is to protect pedestrians. However, when a speed limit changes with little notice, public education, or signage – then it is too easy to assume that revenue was a primary motivation rather than public safety.

I am hopeful my fine will be refunded as a consequence of this Committee hearing

With kind regards
Evangelos Adoniou