



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 23 – Michael Cawley

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

Received - 12/10/21

Authorised – 14/10/21

Cover Page

Submission to Standing Committee on Planning,
Transport and City Services

Regarding

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

October 2021

To: Standing Committee on Planning, Transport and City Services

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

I support the change in speed limit to 40km/h in the Canberra City area. A move of this type enhances pedestrian safety in an affordable manner. However, the change was poorly implemented from a community education/messaging perspective. While a program to educate the community was conducted, it was clearly deficient, indeed arguably it failed, as evidenced by the significant quantity of speeding tickets issued to motorists.

It is my opinion that the key failure lay with the traffic signage currently placed along the main roads leading into the city area. The traffic speed signage is too small for the effect that needs to be achieved insofar as pedestrian safety is concerned. Larger signage, for example, similar in size to those on Barton Highway, need to be erected. Such signage need not be placed in every street, more-so on the key entry points to the 40km/h area. For example, on Barry Drive, Northbourne Avenue at both the northern and southern (City Hill) entrances to the city, the northern entrances to Lonsdale & Mort Streets, and the southern entrances to London Circuit and Marcus Clarke Streets.

In summary, the increase in pedestrian safety that has been sought through the implementation of 40km/h areas has more than likely not been realised. A change to educating motorists, specifically through longer term-improved traffic signage, is required to deliver on increased pedestrian safety.

Michael Cawley

[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]