



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 46 - Weston Creek Community
Council

Inquiry into the Road Transport (Safety and
Traffic Management) Amendment Bill 2021 (No 2)
and Road Transport Legislation Amendment

Bill 2021

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Standing Committee on Planning, Transport, and City Services Inquiry into *Road Transport (Safety and Traffic Management) Amendment Bill 2021 (No 2)*

Weston Creek Community Council Supplementary Submission

Your local voice

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Chair
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Dear Chair

Weston Creek Community Council welcomes the opportunity to provide comment on the Bill *Road Transport Legislation Amendment Bill 2021*, tabled by Minister Chris Steel recently.

Council notes the content of the Bill tabled by Mr Steel and that it intends to enhance road safety legislation. The intent of the legislative outcome must be to discourage dangerous and risk-taking behaviours.

Council suggests the Committee recommend to the Legislature a firm hierarchy of triggers for the use of traffic infringement notices and court processes for alleged traffic offences. This hierarchy should be based on both the degree of culpability and the risk of injury/death involved.

While Mr Steel's Bill certainly provides for stronger penalties for culpable driving, negligent driving that causes harm, unsafe behaviour of mobility devices, and negligent driving that does not cause injury. Council, however, questions whether a court process would provide effective deterrence of the behaviours the Bill seeks to deter because only a small subset of matters would be likely to result in a penalty being applied. The main limiting factor would be caused by the inevitable rationing of scarce court, policing and prosecutorial resources.

Yours sincerely

{signed electronically}

Bill Gemmell
Interim Chair
Weston Creek Community Council
15 October 2021