



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES
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Submission No 37 - Mr Stephen Ryan

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

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After retiring a few years back I joined a veterans road riding group and we ride 40-70kms each Thursday morning. Approximately half the distance ridden each week is on road and we were delighted when the ACT introduced the metre matters requirement, as our on road riding often is on roads without marked cycle lanes and with lots of heavy vehicles that often pass within cm's rather than a metre. As a resident of Ainslie, every cycle trip involves riding on the road or footpaths due to the complete absence on cycle paths or on road cycle lanes. Accordingly, most cyclists living in Ainslie would agree that they are vulnerable road users.

To ensure that there is a wholistic approach to road safety for vulnerable road users, it is important that not only are there safe passing requirements in place, but also realistic penalties that make ignoring the requirements something that vehicle drivers will be cognisant of. There are many roads in the ACT that vulnerable road users with trepidation due to the risky actions of drivers of cars and heavy vehicles and short of a major investment in new infrastructure for vulnerable road users, the amendment bill will provide a major disincentive to those drivers undertaking actions intended to scare but sometimes causing collisions and injuries.

Stephen Ryan
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