



# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

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STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND CITY SERVICES

Jo Clay MLA (Chair), Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy), Mark Parton MLA

Submission No 9 – Dr Tulika Saxena

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

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# Invitation for public submissions for the Inquiry into impact of revised speed limits in Civic - Petitions 31-21 and 38-21

Hi,

My name is Dr Tulika Saxena and I am Gender and Domestic Violence Specialist at [REDACTED] located at [REDACTED]. I oversee Domestic Violence Support Service of [REDACTED] is a feminist not-for-profit organisation that has provided community services and represented women's issues in Canberra since 1929. We provide essential, quality services for women, girls and families in the ACT and surrounding regions. We work in the areas of children's services, community development, homelessness and affordable housing, domestic and family violence, youth services, personal and professional training, women's leadership and advocacy.

I want to highlight that our office has been directly impacted by the speed limits that has been imposed in the Civic area. We are community services professionals, who work for women's specialist homelessness and a domestic violence service that supports vulnerable community impacted by domestic violence. My work colleague and myself are law abiding responsible citizens and are driven by strong passion to contribute to community.

In month of July, many of my work colleagues received fines, few of them 2-3 fines within space of a week. This impacted significantly our wellbeing. Most of the fines were on our work cars, on our way to support a vulnerable person. Many of us use public transport to come into city as we cannot even afford to pay expensive parking in the city. We received fine when we used work cars to support vulnerable persons. Even though I had not yet received a fine, as I had driven a work car, whole week I was dreading receiving a ticket and there was a sombre atmosphere at work

I am in no way advocating that this makes us immune to the traffic rules, we always abide by them. However, what I am raising is relevance of this speeding limit, its positive impact and who were the people who bore the burnt of being fined. Is this a school area with children crossing the roads? Or was this a high accident area where this speed limit was necessary. One of my colleagues received a fine for 43 kms speed in this zone. What is the rationale of this? Is this really helping traffic incidents?

Regards.

**Dr Tulika Saxena, PhD**

**Gender and Domestic Violence Specialist**

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