



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 44 – Leela Ross

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

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From: Leela Ross [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 18 October 2021 2:39 PM
To: LA Committee - PTCS <LACommitteePTCS@parliament.act.gov.au>
Subject: Inquiry into impact of revised speed limits In Civic – Petitions 31-21 and 38-21 - Submission Leela Ross

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Moin,

I wanted to write to you in full support of the 40km/h speed limit in Civic, since its implementation I have felt much safer in civic as both a pedestrian and cyclist who frequents the area.

I feel it's important that Civic is a place of commerce and not just an arterial road. A raised speed limit just encourages more traffic to move through the area making it hostile to foot and cycle traffic. This is notable on Friday and Saturday nights when there are a lot of people with impaired senses walking close to the road, a 40km/h speed limit reduces the risk of life altering injuries. The WHO has extensive information on the risks of speed, as it says in the attached document, "pedestrians have been shown to have a 90% chance of survival when struck by a car travelling at 30 km/h or below, but less than 50% chance of surviving an impact at 45 km/h. Pedestrians have almost no chance of surviving an impact at 80 km/hr"

It is my strong belief that during these times of high night activity the speed limit should be lowered further to 30km/h due to the large number of people with possible impaired judgment interacting with traffic. With a 40km/h speed limit while the pedestrians only have a slightly over 50% chance of survival. Why would we raise the speed limit and risk people's lives?

It's an important message that Civic is not just a place for cars to drive through, it's a place of life and activity. Cars can take alternate routes around civic areas where the people and businesses they need to access are stuck there. I strongly encourage that Civic remains a 40km/h speed zone for the safety of Canberra's community.

Regards,
Leela Ross

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