

INQUIRY INTO VULNERABLE ROAD USERS

Organisation: Private Citizen
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Dear Committee,

As a cyclist and motorcyclist of more than 30 years, I have vast experience in using our roads for transport - commuting, touring and casual recreation. There are plenty of things that could be done to improve the safety of two-wheeled transport users on our roads.

A few simple things come to mind for motorcyclists:

- mandatory ABS on all motorcycles and scooters from a future date - sooner rather than later!
- minimum standards for visibility and protection of motorcycle clothing
- insurance discounts and subsidies on extra safety equipment such as traction control and airbags (such as on the new Honda Goldwing)

For cyclists:

- designing roundabouts for use by all vehicles, including cyclists, who, for example, may need to indicate right at the bottom of a hill at a roundabout (the front brake is usually on the right, making safe turning difficult)
- making sure bike lanes don't just disappear - like the one on the Ryde side of Delhi Rd - just near the speed camera - placing cyclists in a dangerous position
- Removing squeeze points, such as council speed humps, that push the cyclist into the traffic as they narrow
- Dedicating a painted cycle lane on the Pyrmont bridge to try and better share the space between cyclists and pedestrians
- better commuting corridors in particular to legitimise cycling in the eyes of the RTA, NRMA and other motoring focussed groups

For both cyclists and motorcyclists:

- banning wire rope barriers - these things are killers!
- smaller gap on the bottom of Armco fences - less chance of sliding through them to decapitation or nasty injury
- banning metal road plates
- minimising "road furniture" - they are a danger to all
- better road planning and maintenance with two wheeled vehicles in mind
- banning the "flush seal" method of road resurfacing - where the contractor sprays on some tar and throws stones all over the road. The loose stones are a hazard to machine and human. This was recently done on the Bobbin Head Road in Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park and it caused more than one cyclist to lose control in the deep gravel and hit the road.

That's all I have time for at the moment.

Regards,
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