Submission No 87

Mobile speed camera enforcement programs in NSW

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To whom it may concern

I have commuted from the Central Coast to Hornsby for the last 28 years. I also drive all over Sydney in my daily job. Not to mention all the other driving I have done outside commuting. The only state I haven't driven to is the NT. I have also driven in the UK and Europe. I enjoy driving, I drive to relax even when feeling stressed. I feel this gives me the ability to provide good feedback coming from many years and klm's of driving. Not just on the topic of warning signs on road side speed cameras but road safety in general.

1. No warning signs on road side mobile speed cameras.

This is clear a grab for more revenue. These cameras do not make people slow down as they are not even aware that the car is there. I know your response would be well don't speed and you have nothing to worry about, but it is a simple response to a bigger issue. There are so many things that you have to watch while driving these days. All the signs on the side and above the roads telling you what you can and cannot do. Sometimes these signs are one after the other for a stretch of hundreds of meters. Also taking into account most people these days have sat navs running to follow directions which they are also watching. also take into account the usual distractions of other people in the car. Oh don't let me forget having to watch out for what all the other vehicles are doing around you because the standard of driving these days is that poor you spend so much of your time driving watching out for others doing crazy things.

When you add all of these things together and the other variables that I have missed it makes it extremely difficult to monitor your speed every second. And it only takes a second to go over the speed limit and only a second to pass that no warning mobile speed camera and you didn't even realise. How does that make you drive slower?? Cars these days are made to drive smoother, faster and are safer. And you as a government are trying to take advantage of that to raise revenue under the guise of road safety.

Road safety would be putting as many VISIBLE deterrents on the road as possible. Instead of having unmarked mobile road side cars, mark them. put the warning signs out like before. Then people slow down don't they? Isn't that what you want? People slowing down? Put more marked police patrol cars on the road. Not hiding behind corners.. Again that doesn't slow them down. But I can tell you now as I have seen it first hand. On the odd occasion when a police car drives on the m1 at the speed limit everyone does the speed limit. This stuff is a no brainer, compared to your revenue raising. You want people to drive safer? then make better rules for road safety not this rubbish to raise more money and then try to sell it as road safety.

Impose slower speed limits for people towing trailers, boats and caravans. Only allow them in lanes 1 & 2. There is no reason for a vehicle towing something to be doing 110klm or more in lane 3, and I see it every day on the m1.

Make people move left when not overtaking like the signs say. But all the way left not just to lane 2 then do 90klm to 100klm and then you have frustrated drivers going past them either side in lanes 1 and 3. And all of this stuff should be advertised on tv as community announcements like they used to be. There are many more issues that if you are really wanting to effect rod safety you could. Start going back to basics and stop using people that sit in an office looking at a spread sheet and then trying to make policy. I would be more than happy to take you up and down the m1 for a week so you get an idea of what the real world road experience is really like.