Submission No 364

MOBILE SPEED CAMERA ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS IN NSW

Name: Mrs Suhil Nazari

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To whom it may concern,

I am a NSW resident and frequent user of the road network for private use for over 12 years.

The recent changes to the mobile speed camera program has made clear that this program now has a primary purpose of raising revenue rather than safety improvements and road toll reduction in NSW.

This is negatively impacting communities and has fostered an air of distrust towards program as a whole and the government minister (Hon. Andrew Constance) in charge of it.

I request this recent change be reversed and a new approach taken by the NSW Government.

I note the dramatic increase in fines being issued from March 2020 to March 2021 - from 2455 to more than 33000 people as raised by 7news.com.au on June 21st, 2021.

This is a clear revenue raising exercise with no direct, measurable improvement to the primary purpose of the program - reducing the road toll.

The current "covert enforcement" of the speed camera program amounts to a "secret tax on families" as described by NSW Labour Leader (Hon. Chris Minns).

This rings true and is the general consensus amongst the community - from young to old.

A more purposeful and effective approach will be overt enforcement including more police patrols.

While the road toll numbers have reduced in recent times there are other factors that this can be attributed to - safer cars and reduced movement during the COVID pandemic.

In summary the recent changes are not conducive to safer roads and merely amount to an extra tax on society with minimal benefit.

Thank you.