

**Submission
No 431**

MOBILE SPEED CAMERA ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS IN NSW

Name: Mr Peter Chambers

Date Received: 5 July 2021

Dear Parliamentary Assembly,

I write as an engineer and a regular long distance driver working as a commuter for many years. I am actively involved in assessment of road environments from a design perspective, as well as from an active user. Over my many years of driving, I have seen many accidents, a number of near misses and abhorrent behaviour from many other drivers on the road.

I have personally been put at direct risk by other road rage drivers, my brother has been run off the road by a drug affected driver, and I have gone to assist at an accident where someone made poor choices prior to joining a motorway.

Our road network is complex, is becoming more congested, and is equally being managed by constrained budgets by local councils and TfNSW to improve it. Within all of this, my own children for example, are coming to an age where they will join this network of drivers and I hope that experience and coaching will lead to improved driving, along with experience and correcting mistakes made.

What I am more concerned about however, are hidden, and ever increasing numbers of private vehicles employed by the State Government for the purposes of penalising as many drivers as possible while remaining disguised from road users with a lack of signage or warning.

There are a range of factors that influence driver behaviour, and overwhelming studies have shown visible policing of roads has proven to be far more effective in lowering the incidence of road and traffic accidents, while the exact opposite is true for the governments proposal to increase more unmarked speed detecting vehicles, where crashes and injuries have actually increased.

I would welcome the government fundamentally using data and evidence, and continuing to improve roads through asset renewal, patching, signage and policing then use private vehicles that have drastically increased general revenue by silently policing mild speeding offences at mass scale, and the notification to the driver could be weeks after the offence was made.

I strongly urge the government to not use this opportunity to push for this revenue raising to be veiled in a mantra of "road safety" and instead work towards the proven fundamentals of road safety.

Yours sincerely
Peter Chambers