

**Submission  
No 537**

## **MOBILE SPEED CAMERA ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS IN NSW**

**Name:** Mr Grant Mistler

**Date Received:** 8 July 2021

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Dear Joint Standing Committee on Road Safety

**RE: Mobile Speed Camera Enforcement Programs in NSW**

I wish to thank the committee for focusing on this important road safety topic.

I feel we have a need in NSW to introduce average-speed detection cameras for passenger cars, similar to those already operating in South Australia for passenger cars. Average-speed detection cameras measure the time taken by a passenger car to travel between two camera sites, to calculate the average speed of that passenger car over a longer stretch of road.

My reason for this request is: driving to Newcastle on 29 May 2021 to see “WARWAR, The Art of Torres Strait” exhibition was a terrifying experience at times. Drivers who ‘know’ the M1 motorway between Sydney and Newcastle would speed up, driving more than 120 kilometres per hour, weaving and ducking in and out between other cars and trucks, as those drivers apparently know where the hidden mobile speed cameras are ‘likely’ to hide on that motorway. Some sections of the M1 motorway may therefore be ideal to conduct a pilot trial of average-speed detection cameras, to calm the traffic, and to ascertain public benefit.

I do recall just after 31 July 2018, writing to the then Minister for Roads, Maritime and Freight, requesting The Hon. Melinda Pavey MP to introduce average-speed detection cameras for passenger cars after the terrible multiple vehicle pile-up and deaths on the M1 near the Mooney Mooney Bridge. Unfortunately, no action was taken by The Hon. Melinda Pavey MP. A year later, on 30 October 2019, a B-Double truck crashed into a roadworks zone on the M1 near Wyong. Another eight months later, on 1 June 2021, a B-Double truck crashed into a roadworks zone near Kangy Angy on the M1.

There are many more examples of deaths, crashes and near misses along the M1 between Sydney and Newcastle. During my time driving that stretch of road since 2018, I have seen zero safety improvements, nothing at all. Passenger cars today still drive along that M1 like it’s the 1994 Northern Territory Cannonball Run.

Even so I survive driving the M1, the experience is certainly always unpleasant, just three seconds away from injury.

Today, I also wish to specifically highlight to the committee, that the roadworks speed restrictions are not really adhered to from what I experience every day in Sydney. More than a few drivers are not slowing down to 40 kilometres per hour through those signposted roadworks sections. I feel drivers are not afraid of being fined, and I fear for the safety of those workers undertaking our much-needed roadworks in NSW.

Thank you in advance for considering my submission today.

Yours faithfully

Grant Mistler