

**Submission
No 556**

MOBILE SPEED CAMERA ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS IN NSW

Name: Mr James Madden

Date Received: 9 July 2021

I have been a professional taxi driver/operator for over 14 years in Newcastle.

Doing over 60 hours a week driving in traffic and on the open road. Having seen the advent of mobile speed camera's along with the behaviour of motorists to these speed cameras has motivated me to write this submission.

Over the initial period of introduction of these cameras there was a noticeable difference in drivers behaviours around these speed cameras and it did slow down traffic below the signposted speed limits after the camera location both directions. Now without signs people are speeding more as they see no visual deterrent.

As from March 2020 and the arrival of COVID-19 traffic reduced by over 60%, which also had a net effect of reducing accidents and road fatalities. I also noticed a reduction in speeding in vehicles in traffic and also dangerous driving during this period.

I feel in NSW there are very inadequate speed signs posted and at times I find myself looking for speed limit signs instead of concentrating on my driving and speed, which shouldn't occur. There are many areas where you can change speed limit zones up to 9 times in 4kms (From Dee Why in Sydney to Katoomba the speed limit changes 73 times and that is mainly in Highway conditions.

There are areas where the speed limit changes and there are no signs in sight only painted on the road and if you are following a double truck or bus you can miss these.

In any form of life people make mistakes and also have a lapse in concentration when performing certain tasks and we all make mistakes. I find that the speed camera signs I come across force me to check my speed but also remind me of the speed limit I am travelling in.

As a professional driver I would be horrified to find that after 2 weeks I have been speeding in a situation where I might have been distracted by a drunken or drug induced passenger and I cannot supply camera based evidence due to the computer drive memory only lasting 7 days - very unfair legally and morally.

For these new measures to be fair and equitable Speed Limit Zones need improved and more frequent signage, which will help make our roads safer for all road users.