

Economic Development Committee

Inquiry into the road safety benefits of fixed  
speed cameras

Submission 14



14.

# Wayne Wendt MP

## State Member for Ipswich West

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15<sup>th</sup> March 2010

Evan Moorhead MP  
Chair  
Economic Development Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE 4000



Dear Mr Moorhead *Evan*

In relation to the current inquiry into the road safety benefits of fixed speed cameras, please see below my comments on this issue.

- After some discussion with the TMR and Police I was instrumental in applying for a fixed speed camera to be installed in the Ipswich West Electorate. Ideally I wanted this camera located on the Warrego Highway which bisects my electorate. This highway is the main thoroughfare for heavy vehicles entering south east Queensland with freight, grain, minerals and livestock. In addition the western corridor is continuing to experience immense residential and commercial growth.

The fixed speed camera on the Warrego Highway is located at Muirlea, monitoring the east bound lanes. Although this camera was only commissioned on 24 December I believe that it has been very effective in helping reduce the incidence of speeding vehicles. In unison with this camera I was fortunate to be the first area in Queensland to have installed 4 speed activated electronic road signs. Three of these signs are located on the Warrego highway west of the fixed speed camera at Minden, Ironbark and Blacksoil. As such I believe the combination of the speed activated signs with the fixed speed camera represents a better overall ability to control and monitor speeding vehicles.

Anecdotally, I believe that the combination of speed activated signs and the fixed speed camera has had a marked effect on the general behaviour of motorists on the Warrego highway. I would certainly encourage and support their combined or singular use.

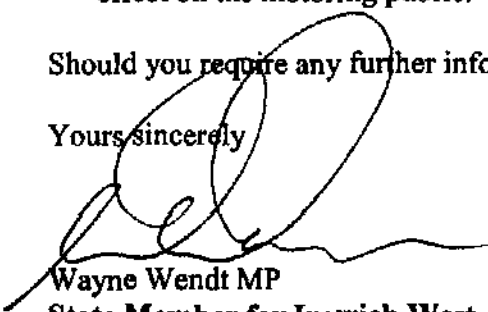
- The criteria used to select sites for the erection of the fixed speed cameras are neither well known nor well documented. As you can imagine local Members, Councillors, residents, Police, TMR staff etc have a good appreciation of where speeding vehicles tend to be more prevalent. As such when a decision is made to erect a camera in a location where the local populace believes it makes no sense, it can be difficult to ensure local support for the proposal.

As such it is imperative that local knowledge is taken into consideration when locations are being sought and that a set criteria supporting the location is able to be displayed. My experience was that the site on the Warrego Highway was nominated without seeking local advice.

- It is difficult to comment on whether fixed speed cameras provide the most efficient use of resources without the appropriate supporting information. However I would consider that the costs involved in their commissioning and maintenance would be covered by the revenue they earn, as well as the effect they have on the motoring public.
- As mentioned previously, I believe the combination of speed activated electronic signs and the fixed speed camera have had a major positive influence on the motoring public along this stretch of highway. In addition I would consider that the introduction of digital camera technology should be implemented as soon as possible to replace the existing wet film variety.
- I would consider that more fixed speed cameras should be installed, particularly on our highways in south east Queensland. Although I have a number of constituents who disagree with the policy I believe that the anecdotal evidence would suggest that they have had a positive effect on the motoring public.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Wayne Wendt MP  
State Member for Ipswich West