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Parliament House  
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TRAVELSAFE  
COMMITTEE

357

## NUMBER PLATE RECOGNITION TECHNOLOGY

### Items 1 and 2 EFFICACY ; COST/ BENEFITS

From reports in the press of trials elsewhere, it would seem that any consideration of efficacy should be strictly limited to a consideration of the benefits over the costs. Surely, there can be no serious question as to the technology working, even under "Queensland conditions".

Briefly, I consider the costs of increased road surveillance [speed and ANPR cameras for example] should be offset against reduced costs which could be expected from a reduction in the road toll through savings in hospital and ambulance costs. Improved road safety to the citizens of Queensland should also be a prime consideration.

### Item 3 ENFORCEMENT

Road safety education in Queensland lacks any real penetration. Everyone knows about it, but apart from L and P plate drivers, it has become part of the background.

While such measures must continue to be put forward to the public, they will only have benefit if they are accompanied by very public, strict and constant enforcement.

This is clearly the role of the Police. My view is that ANPR should be incorporated in an expanded speed camera program in areas of population concentrations especially in problem areas such as those include in the Police QPRIME system.

### Item 4 OTHER MATTERS

To me, the Parliamentary Travelsafe Committee needs to increase its public profile after many years of apparent inactivity and press exposure which does no credit to some of its past members.

This inquiry provides the opportunity for the Committee to make a positive and immediate contribution.

My recommendation is that the Committee call for the immediate adoption of ANPR technology.

That the Government immediately agree to the purchase and installation of 1000 additional fixed road surveillance cameras, ten per cent of which would involve ANPR technology.

The emphasis of a larger number of speed cameras recognises that smaller numbers of ANPR units would be required on continuous road systems such as motorways. I recognise that the question of fixed cameras is being considered separately, but as apparently as nothing appears to be happening , the Committee is in an excellent position to be proactive in this vital area of road safety.

Yours sincerely,



W. KIDSTON