

Gary Timuss



June 24, 2013

The Research Director  
Transport, Housing and Local Government Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
Brisbane QLD 4000

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THLGC

RE: Inquiry into Cycling Issues - Submission to the Transport, Housing and Local Government Committee's Inquiry

Dear Committee Chair:

Thank you for the opportunity to make submissions to the Committee. I am a citizen who has been living at the Gold Coast for the past five years. I work in an office in Southport and reside 5 kilometers away. For the first four of the past five years, I cycled the return journey on most days.

During that time, I have been a party to four 'near-miss' incidents between myself as a cyclist and vehicle drivers. Three of those four incidents were at intersections involving drivers who were on the lookout for other vehicles but oblivious to bicycle users on the road. In the fourth incident, a parked car driver opened his door without any regard to any user on the road. Additionally, I have had a car passenger throw a bottle directed at me whilst I was riding in a bicycle lane. Also, I personally observed the aftermath of two cyclists being struck by a vehicle driving down a "bicycle lane" that is also used as a car parking area. One of those cyclists was rendered either unconscious or dead.

Quite simply I do not feel safe as a bicycle user and in the past year I have only rarely commuted by bicycle. From the aforementioned personal experiences, I do not see how the additional rules, regulations, or sanctions being contemplated would have had any effect on the incidents that have led to my feeling of non-safety. I would instead ask the Committee to investigate whether infrastructure improvements items like physical separation and the continuity of cycle lanes through intersections and a review of marked cycling paths also being used for vehicle parking would be more effective at meeting the goals of the Queensland Cycle Strategy.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Gary Timuss'.

Gary Timuss