

From: paul dawkins [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 15 July 2013 11:59 AM
To: Transport Housing and Local Government Committee
Subject: Inquiry into Cycling Issues - Submission

To the Committee

Cycling should be promoted as it benefits people's health and a person riding a bicycle has far fewer emissions than that of driving a car. However when cyclists are on the roads they should not be able to impede the flow of traffic. If I drove my car at a slower speed than the speed limit I would get done for holding up the traffic. Cyclists clearly can not go as fast as cars. Cars will therefore overtake cyclists as they are impeding the traffic. As cyclists are vulnerable a safer over taking distance would be ideal for them. This though does not solve the issue of the cyclists impeding traffic flow. The roads are really there to cater for trucks, buses and cars not bicycles.

I would therefore recommend the following -

1. more bicycle lanes and bike ways.
2. no exemptions to the wearing of bike helmets.
3. No need to put in place a road rule of a minimum 1m overtaking bicycles as Reckless Driving already covers unsafe overtaking practices of drivers. It really is a matter of people being courteous to other road users. Perhaps cyclists should pull over where practical to allow drivers past and drivers should be a little more patient when stuck behind a cyclist. As a driver who sticks to the speed limit I don't like being tail gated. Being tail gated puts pressure on you and I can just imagine what a vulnerable cyclist feels. Simple thing to remember is that we all like to be alive at the end of the day.
4. If registration came into effect some exemptions need to be in place as you don't want Mums and Dads burdened with registering their children's bikes.
5. The registration of bicycles should only be a small fee and you could pay for it along with your car rego as you are already paying for the privilege of using the roads. If you don't have a car then the fee could be slightly higher.

Kind Regards
Paul Dawkins

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