

The Research Director

Transport, Housing and Local Government Committee

Parliament House

George Street

Brisbane QLD 4000

I am writing in reference to the Queensland Parliamentary Inquiry into Cycling Issues. I am specifically addressing the important issue of "the potential benefits and impacts of bicycle registration."

The current mandatory legal requirement for vehicle registration has the following benefits:

1. Revenue to the State as a part of the use of our roads which are generally of a very high standard.
2. Identification of vehicles in the event of an accident or other dispute on the roadway. Road infringements can also be enforced passively by way of speed cameras, red light cameras, or a Council or Police officer observing an infringement and later enforcing it.
3. Mandatory checks and balances such as roadworthiness commitment from a seller to a buyer when a vehicle changes hands. This not only protects the buyer but all road users by ensuring vehicles on the road are maintained to a reasonable standard.
4. **Critically, registration enforces the mandatory levy of compulsory third party insurance.**

I draw the Inquiry's attention specifically to my points around insurance and identification. I believe that mandatory registration and specifically enforcing compulsory third party insurance would be beneficial to all road users such that:

1. Cyclists are individually protected against accidental damage to third parties.
2. Other road users have a point of identification for damage to their property and can pass this information on to their insurance as is the case in any collision between registered vehicles on the road.
3. Pedestrians (especially children and the elderly) would have a legal point of recourse for compensation should a cyclist impact them and cause severe injury or disability.
4. Cyclists would be subject to the same good behaviour and legal compliance that every other road user is by virtue of knowing they are driving a registered vehicle, with identification on display, and so may be held responsible for their own actions.

I note other submissions to the Inquiry identify registration as a 'money grab' or cite other personal reasons why registration should not be enforced. I implore the inquiry to look beyond the concerns of special interest groups and examine the fundamental first principle reasons why registration and CTP exist in the first place.

We enjoy a fantastic road system and by and large all road users behave responsibly. We have a legal safety net that protects innocent victims of road accidents that is enforced and all current registered vehicle owners abide by this.

As more cyclists use roadways it becomes increasingly important that they are held to the same standards (and contribute funds accordingly) as other vehicles on the roads for the protection of all users of the road system.

David Connors

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