



Labor

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**JO HAYLEN MP  
SHADOW MINISTER FOR ACTIVE TRANSPORT**

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**NSW PARENTS DEMAND BEREJIKLIAN AND CONSTANCE FIX  
ROAD SAFETY AROUND SCHOOLS**

Parents across NSW are demanding the NSW Government fix dangerous roads around schools, with almost three and a half thousand parents, carers, teachers and residents responding to the NSW School Safety Survey.

The survey, which comes as parents grapple with congestion around schools as students return to full-time teaching after Covid-19, encourages parents to speak up on road safety issues around local schools.

Parents report that they want their families to walk or ride to school, but choose to drive because walking or riding are unsafe options. The survey reveals that:

- A third of parents (36%) point to unsafe crossings as the reason they won't let their kids walk to school;
- 12% said a lack of footpaths mean walking or riding isn't safe; and
- 11% said a lack of parking or poor driving behaviour made roads around the schools unsafe.

Crash statistics show that [the most dangerous time to be on our roads is during the afternoon pick-up](#) and road trauma remains the number one killer of kids aged 14 and under.

Jo Haylen, Shadow Minister for Active Transport, has called on the NSW Liberal Government to listen to parents and act immediately to make local streets safe. Last week, the Government was [forced to defend its failure to hire 300 crossing supervisors](#) as promised in the 2019 State election.

*“Getting families to walk or ride to school is better for our kids’ health, is cheaper, cleaner and critically, gets cars off our busy streets,” said Ms Haylen.*

*“Families across NSW want the option to ride, walk or take public transport, but the Premier needs to build the infrastructure and provide the services to make it possible.*

*“It beggars belief that in 2020, schools still don’t have safe pedestrian crossings, crossing supervisors or footpaths. The Government should commit to improving safety and creating local jobs by building this vital infrastructure now.*

*“If this stays off the Premier’s agenda, we’ll see more and more congestion and spend longer in our cars right when we’re trying to get back to work and improve productivity.*

Over one million kids travel to and from school each day and the majority continue to be driven, [compared to 40 years ago when 70% rode or walked](#). These short trips add to congestion on our streets, with the cost of congestion in Sydney alone [set to increase from \\$8.1 billion in 2016 to \\$15.9 billion in 2031](#). If just 5km were shifted to walking or riding, speeds on our roads [would increase by 50%](#).

*“It’s time the Premier listened to the parents, teachers and residents who know their local streets best and act now to make our communities safer for kids,” said Ms Haylen.*

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