

15 September 2021

The Hon. Andrew Constance MP
Minister for Transport and Roads
GPO Box 5341
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Minister

Cycling Safety

I write to request that you meet with Bicycle NSW representatives to discuss progress with cycling safety in NSW.

Bicycle NSW General Manager Public Affairs Bastien Wallace tells me that bike riders are very concerned about continuing deaths and injuries of bike riders in NSW. I note that 14 riders were listed as killed in 2019 and again in 2020, with five killed already this year. While 727 riders were listed as injured in 2019, injury data is likely underreported. Along with pedestrians, bike riders are particularly vulnerable road users.

While cycling numbers continue to rise, Bastien tells me that the number of bike riders killed or injured remains high compared to the number of people riding. She says that action to reduce other road deaths and injuries and deaths has resulted in reduced rates for other road users, and action is needed to achieve the same result for bike riders.

Bastien says that road safety campaigns directed at bike riders have focussed on riders' behaviour including helmets, but there have not been effective campaigns directed to motor vehicle drivers. She tells me that Office of State Revenue fines data since the 2015 introduction of safe passing distance laws show that only 167 fines have been issued despite driver being found at fault in the majority of crashes involving motor vehicles and bike riders. She is concerned that education of drivers and police is needed to change behaviour and ensure compliance with safe passing laws in particular.

I share community concern about increasing numbers of bike riders killed or seriously hurt on the road, and support action to improve education of road users and prevent further deaths and injury.

You can contact Bastien via 0416 598 586 or bastien.wallace@bicyclensw.org.au.

Could you please meet with Bicycle NSW representatives about improving cycling safety in NSW and inform me what action you will take?

Yours sincerely



Alex Greenwich
Member for Sydney

