

15 July 2020

The Hon. Michael McCormack MP
Deputy Prime Minister and
Minister for Infrastructure Transport and Regional Development
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Dear Deputy Prime Minister,

In 2015, Coroner Christine Clements made a number of recommendations following an inquest into the tragic death of cyclist Rebekka Meyer, which involved a heavy vehicle when riding her bike in Brisbane.

One of the recommendationsⁱ from the Coroner was the mandatory fitting of appropriate technologies to heavy vehicles to address blind spots to warn drivers of obstacles and other road users. We are disappointed to see limited support or appetite to adopt this recommendation and make changes the mandatory Australian Design Rules for blind spot technology.

Sadly, this month another Queensland cyclist, Carolyn Lister lost her life in an incident which involved a heavy vehicle within the inner Brisbane area. It is clear the risks for cyclists when interacting with heavy vehicles remains. While road design and upgrades responsibilities fall to State Governments, much can be done at the federal level to facilitate safer interactions between heavy vehicles and cyclists.

On behalf of the 1.4 million cyclists in Queensland, I am asking for the mandating of sensors and cameras to be fitted to heavy vehicles to improve the safety of vulnerable road users, be added as an agenda item at the upcoming Transport Infrastructure Council Meeting.

The road map out of these challenging times for your Government involves further investment in infrastructure and construction projects. This will see an increase in heavy vehicles in our inner-city areas of our metropolitan cities and satellite centres. Queensland has seen a 300% increase in cycling as a result of COVID-19 with many new riders indicating they wish to continue riding when returning to workⁱⁱ.

I ask you to reflect on the recommendations of Coroner Clements and lead on implementing changes to improve the safety and wellbeing of Queensland cyclists and truck drivers, and to set the standard nationally.

Kind regards,



Rebecca Randazzo, Chief Executive Officer

ⁱ Recommendation 7.i in this finding: https://www.courts.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/449447/cif-meyer-rtl-20151209.pdf

ⁱⁱ <https://bq.org.au/news/riding-a-bike-is-39-times-better-than-going-to-the-gym-queenslanders-say/>