

20th August 2021

Industry Statement on Speed Cameras for Road Work Sites

Everyone deserves to get home safe from work.

More than 1,000 people die and a further 44,000 suffer serious injuries such as acquired brain injuries and paraplegia on Australian roads every year.

Speeding is a factor in approximately one third of these crashes.

Road workers put themselves at risk to deliver the infrastructure Australian drivers are demanding. Unfortunately, it is some of these same drivers who are putting these workers at risk.

Research shows that not only do Australian drivers regularly drive above the restricted speed limit at road work sites, some of them do so at excessive speeds. In one piece of research, an examination of the speed of 40,000 vehicles through road work sites showed that drivers averaged 10km/h over the restricted speed limit at urban road work sites and 15 km/h over the restricted speed limit at regional sites. In addition, industry has observed on any given road work site there are daily instances where vehicles exceed more than twice the posted speed limit.

This behaviour may not seem risky to a driver who has a steel cage and air bags around them, but in many cases, our workers have nothing more than a Stop/Go sign to protect themselves.

First and foremost, our associations want road works sites where our people are clearly removed from live traffic situations. Where this is not able to be achieved, we believe there needs to be more passive and active enforcement measures to prevent speeding in our work sites.

On this basis we seek the following commitments:

- Separation of traffic and road workers will always be the first consideration and implemented wherever feasible.
- Support for speed advisory signs in the lead into road works sites, advising drivers where they are over the lowered speed limit.
- A commitment from government to enforce restricted speed limits in work sites through the use of available speed enforcement measures, including the use of point-to-point camera technology and mobile speed cameras.
- The introduction and use of new technology that can accurately determine speeds and advise and enforce speed limits.
- That any revenue generated from enforcement be directed back into road safety and road condition projects that are linked to a vision of zero harm on the road network.

Using these best practice measures has been proven to save lives on our roads. Let's work together to make our road workers safe.



Michael Kilgariff
CEO
(Roads Australia)



Louise Van Ristell
Executive Officer
(TMAA)



Carlos Rial
CEO
(AfPA)



Peter Frazer
President
(SARAH Group)



Stuart Dack
CEO
(AustStab)