

8 November 2021

Hon Darren Chester MP  
Member for Gippsland  
Parliament of Australia

**SUBJECT: Joint Select Committee on Road Safety: Public Hearing Appearance 12 October 2021**

Dear Hon Darren Chester MP,

The Amy Gillett Foundation (AGF) was honoured to present at the public hearing for the Joint Select Committee's inquiry into road safety on Tuesday, 12 October.

We want to thank you for the opportunity to represent 9 of the country's leading cycling organisations in our unified vision for safe cycling in Australia. Most importantly, we want to thank you for the opportunity to amplify the voice of the **10.1 million Aussies** who rode a bike in the past year, and the many others who still don't feel safe enough to ride a bike on Australian roads:

**Cycling Confidence Levels (City of Melbourne 2017)**

- 6% on a road with no cycling infrastructure
- 83% on a stretch of road with protected bike lanes

**Support for Cycling (YouGov 2020)**

- 89% of Australians support the installation of temporary bike lanes
- 75% of **drivers** said they would feel more comfortable if cyclists had their own separated lane

A growing cohort of bike riders represents an exciting future for more liveable and sustainable communities with reduced congestion, noise pollution and transport emissions, as well as improved health outcomes through more active living. At the same time, an increase in participation necessitates concerted action to improve safety outcomes for cyclists who, last year, experienced an **increase in road deaths by over 45%** since the base line was set in 2008.

As we hope to have conveyed during the hearing, our headline ask is for the Joint Select Committee to enable action and implement change to save lives and get us closer to zero deaths on our roads. AGF sees huge potential for the federal government to lead on national pro-cycling policy and to ensure safe infrastructure, safe vehicles, safe people, and safe speeds on Australian roads.

We welcome ongoing dialogue on issues covered during the hearing and future collaboration on many of the recommendations held within our joint submission to the committee.

Yours sincerely,

Dan Kneipp  
Chief Executive Officer  
Amy Gillett Foundation