



Road Safety

Vision Zero. Pedal Power supports 'Vision Zero' – a goal of zero road deaths for the ACT. A safer, slower road environment will encourage cycling. We agree with the current Government's focus on reducing speeding and drink driving. Speeding is a factor in roughly one third of the crashes in the ACT and drink driving roughly another third. Efforts spent reducing speeding and drink driving offer, if sustained over time, large benefits in terms of a slower, safer environment which encourages cycling.

With rights comes responsibility. With over 2500 members, we encourage all our members to act responsibly and respectfully.

Helmets and Bicycle Lights. We encourage people cycling to wear a helmet and have lights at night. Improving helmet wearing and bicycle lighting will require a large, sustained effort over time. It is a complement to the broader vision of making traveling safer by reducing road speed and drink driving.

Road safety is for *all* people We are wary of safety campaigns that inadvertently highlight divisions between groups. Language is important. People ride, drive and walk – many people do all three. Dividing people into groups by using language such as 'motorist', 'motorcyclist', 'pedestrian' or 'cyclist' should be avoided. Marketing that just focuses on cycling safety can be counterproductive because it can create negative impressions about the safety of cycling and makes other road users think of people cycling as 'cyclists' not as people like themselves.

Pedestrian Crossings. We note the current law regarding cycling on pedestrian crossings has non-compliance rates of over 90% - see our paper on safer pedestrian crossings. However, we also note that changing this law is a low priority issue in terms of getting more Canberrans cycling, more often.