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Queensland Government boosts road safety enforcement to help save lives

- As Queensland marks Road Safety Week, new point-to-point speed cameras have been announced among other investments to help curb rising rate of road fatalities.
- Cameras monitor average speeds of motorists over longer distances and are proven to reduce crash risk by up to 85 per cent.
- The Queensland Government is investing \$25.5 billion in roads over the next four years, including \$9 billion joint funded Bruce Highway program.

As the number of lives lost on Queensland roads tragically continues to climb, the Queensland Government is taking action to curb dangerous driving, installing two new point-to-point speed cameras in high-risk areas.

So far this year, 189 people have died in road crashes across the state - a figure that is two more lives lost than the same period last year.

Last year marked the worst road toll since 2009, with speeding contributing to 23 per cent of all fatalities.

The new cameras are one of a raft of measures being delivered by the Queensland Government to improve road safety, including the \$100 million Country Roads Connect program, to upgrade rural and remote corridors, and the \$9 billion Bruce Highway Targeted Safety Program.

New locations scheduled for installation this year include the Pacific Motorway (between Beenleigh and Smith Street) and the Gateway Motorway (North upgrade).

The cameras, which monitor average speeds over longer distances, targeting persistent speeding behaviour, will undergo rigorous testing and commissioning before enforcement begins mid to late next year.

Research shows point-to-point cameras can reduce fatal and serious injury crashes by up to 85 per cent and are supported by the community.

Department of Transport and Main Roads Chief Engineer, Dennis Walsh, said these new cameras are about deterring people from speeding.

“Last year, 302 lives were tragically lost on our roads and thousands more Queenslanders are now living with the lasting impacts of serious injuries caused by road trauma,” Mr. Walsh said.

“The Queensland Government is investing \$25.5 billion in road upgrades over the next four years with proven enforcement measures like point-to-point cameras because the research shows they do work.

“These cameras are a powerful tool in reducing dangerous driving and saving lives and we want to do everything we can to ensure all Queenslanders get home safely.”

RACQ’s General Manager Advocacy Joshua Cooney said speed remained the number one killer on our roads.

“Shockingly, 75% of motorists admit to speeding, so we need to stop this illegal act from being socially acceptable in Queensland,” Mr Cooney said.

“We are very pleased to see the Queensland Government respond to RACQ’s call and adopt the use of point-to-point cameras because they are a proven way of regulating speeds and saving lives in known hot spots.

“This is not about revenue raising – point-to-point camera locations are clearly identified. We support measures that will save lives, and these new locations are a good first step. We’d like to see more.”

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