

## SUBMISSION – INQUIRY INTO CYCLING

### THE "1 METRE RULE" – WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE CYCLIST IS MOVING FASTER THAN THE CARS ?

**I submit that the proposed "1 metre rule" will not work, unless it is reciprocal. That is, it must apply to cyclists equally as much as it does to motorists.**

If you apply this law to only motorists, it will create confusion, chaos and frustration on the roads.

**EXAMPLE :** Assuming that the "1 metre rule" is not applied to cyclists :

**Situation :** relatively slow moving traffic, in peak hour; narrow road – no shoulder or dedicated bike path. Cyclists are by law, allowed to overtake on the left. ( Cars aren't.)

#### **Scenario #1 : When the cars are moving faster than the cyclists :**

(Refer to attached SKETCH #1) :

Cars will need to slow and wait for the appropriate occasion to move out of their lane to overtake the cyclists. (In order to comply with the proposed "1 metre rule.")  
That's fine.

#### **Scenario #2 : When the general traffic is slow :**

(Refer to attached SKETCH #2) :

The cyclists could, MANY TIMES OVER, overtake the SAME vehicles on the left, WITHOUT HAVING TO COMPLY WITH THE "1 METRE RULE" CLEARANCE. The cars however, when speeding up again, will need to slow - again, and again, and again, to repeatedly change lanes, and overtake the same cyclists !  
Result – CHAOS !

Further, if there is an accident, how will one know who is to blame ? The cyclist overtaking on the left, **not allowing a 1 metre clearance**, could well blame the **motorist** for not leaving the clearance !

I THEREFORE SUBMIT THAT : IF THE "1 METRE RULE" IS INTRODUCED, IT MUST BE MADE TO APPLY EQUALLY TO CYCLISTS, AND BE ENFORCED.

Yours faithfully,

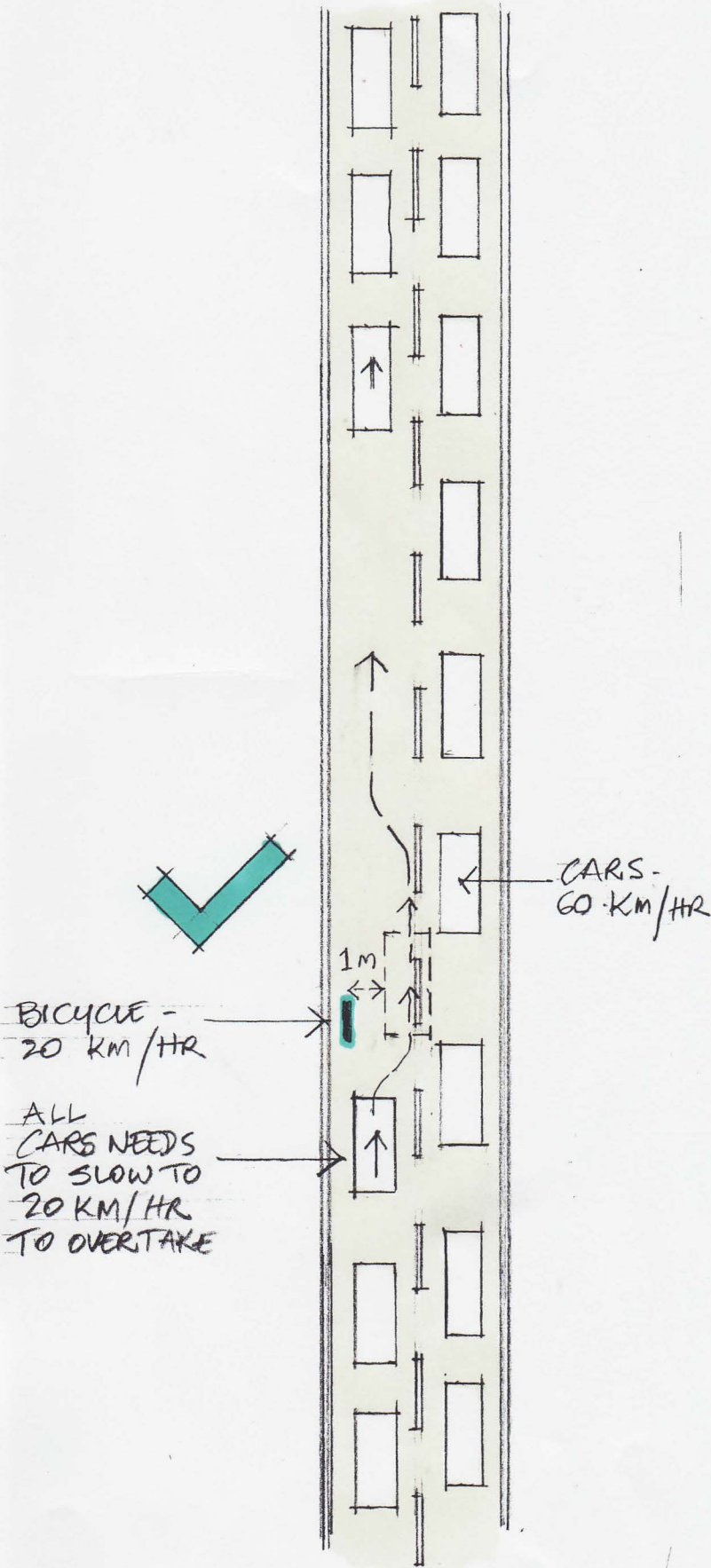


25.7.13

**Harry Peterson.**

2 sketches attached

[REDACTED]



NORMAL SITUATION -  
MOVING TRAFFIC

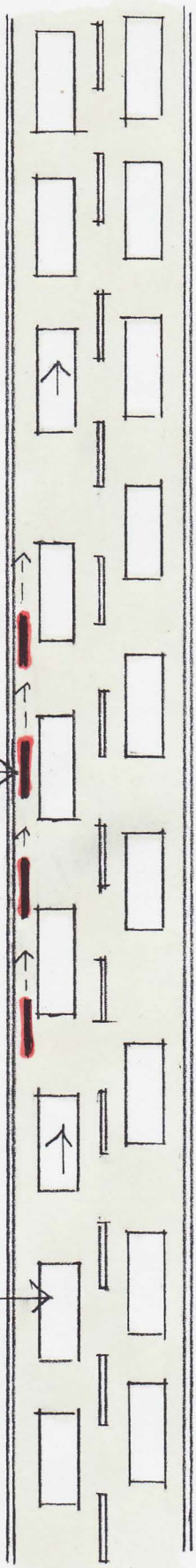
SKETCH # 1



THIS MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO HAPPEN!

CYCLISTS -  
20 km/hr  
OVERTAKING  
ON LEFT WITH  
LESS THAN  
ONE METRE  
CLEARANCE.

STATIONERY  
OR SLOW  
MOVING  
TRAFFIC -  
SPEED VARIES -  
0 km/hr TO  
60 km/hr



SLOW TRAFFIC -  
SPEED VARYING - 0 km/hr TO 60 km/hr.

SKETCH # 2