

Media Release

The Hon Luke Donnellan MP
Minister for Roads & Road Safety
Minister for Ports



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NEW RULES TO MAKE LANE FILTERING SAFE AND LEGAL

The Andrews Labor Government is delivering on its commitment to change laws to allow motorcycles and scooters to lane filter.

Following consultation with motorcyclists, cyclists and drivers, the changes to the current road rules will come into effect on 2 November 2015.

Lane filtering is the practice of motorcycles and scooters travelling at low speed through stopped or slow moving traffic, for example at traffic lights.

While not explicitly banned, riders who filter are at risk of committing an offence under a number of Victorian Road Safety Road Rules.

The changes affect a wide range of community members, not just motorcyclists, and it is important that all road users are aware of the new laws.

The Government has extensively sought people's opinion on the changes, with a community meeting in June and over 1,000 online survey responses.

The new lane filtering measures do not permit lane splitting, which is when motorcycles travel between moving traffic at high speed. This is currently unlawful and will remain so because of the danger it poses to all road users.

The changes include permitted filtering:

- between lanes or lines of traffic in the same direction
- between lanes or lines of traffic and parked cars
- for motorcycle licence holders (not learner permit holders)
- at speeds up to 30km/h (penalties will apply for filtering in excess of 30km/h)
- unless signed otherwise.

VicRoads will support the law change with a public awareness campaign for all road users.

More detailed information on the new filtering measures can be found at www.vicroads.vic.gov.au

Quotes attributable to Minister for Roads and Road Safety, Luke Donnellan

"The Andrews Labor Government is delivering on its commitment to introduce new lane filtering laws that will improve safety for all road users."

"Motorbike and scooter riders can now move ahead of slow or stationary traffic with confidence that they are not breaking the law."

Quotes attributable to Chair of the Victorian Motorcycle Council, Rob Salvatore

"The Victorian Motorcycle Council welcomes the legalising of motorcycle lane filtering for Victoria, showing that riders and Government can successfully work together to improve rider safety and reduce congestion, benefitting all road users."

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