



## SCHOOLZONELIGHTS.COM.AU MEDIA RELEASE



12 August 2009

### RTA GOES BACKWARDS ON SCHOOL ZONE SAFETY

School zone lights campaigner Peter Olsen has blasted the RTA over what he says is a bloody-minded backwards step in response to criticism over school zone safety.

"The NRMA recently released details of a study into the poor visibility of 40kmh school zone signs. It found that up to 20,000 of the signs do not meet Australian Standards.

"There was a story about the issue on p.2 of the Sydney Morning Herald on 29 July. It included a photo of a sign outside Brighton-le-Sands Public School that was obscured by a power pole. See <http://www.smh.com.au/national/school-zone-signs-to-be-replaced-20090728-e069.html>



Spot the warning, if you can ... an obscured speed zone sign across the road from Brighton-Le-Sands Public School. Photo: Sahlan Hayes

"The problem has been solved in typical RTA fashion – by removing the sign completely:



"What is also typical is the way that both the RTA and Government only take action over road safety issues when they receive bad publicity.

"I have had a photo of that hidden sign at Brighton-le-Sands on my web site at <http://www.schoolzonelights.com.au/anomalies5.html> for the past 3 year (11<sup>th</sup> photo), along with 17 other similar signs. The RTA and Government were fully aware of the web page by virtue of several of my media releases referring to it, but simply ignored the issue because it did not generate sufficient bad publicity. As a result children's lives were needlessly placed at risk.

"Another example was the lack of a 40kmh school zone on Lane Cove Rd at North Ryde Public School. In March this year the RTA refused a request from the school for a 40kmh zone. In May a child was critically injured outside the school so in June a 40kmh school zone was installed. Naturally the 40kmh signs are once again hidden. See final photo on above web page.

"The RTA and Government have likewise ignored other major school zone safety issues because they have not generated enough bad publicity, in particular other schools on major roads that have no 40kmh zones. See <http://www.schoolzonelights.com.au/anomalies.html> and click on "1 – Existence of 40kmh Zones".

"A child will obviously have to die at one of those schools before the RTA and Government take action. In the meantime every one of their media releases on school zones will continue to contain the meaningless slogan: *"Nothing is more important than the safety of our kids."*

"See also <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QPkJiJTvOAM>

For more information contact:  
Peter Olsen  
0414-538-404