



# **The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP**

## **Premier of NSW**

### **Minister for Western Sydney**

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Thursday 7 April 2011

### **NSW GOVT ORDERS SPEED CAMERA AUDIT**

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell and Minister for Roads Duncan Gay today ordered an audit of every speed camera across the State – delivering on another election commitment.

The NSW Government has written to the Auditor-General requesting the investigation of fixed speed cameras, mobile speed cameras and safety cameras.

“This audit will provide motorists with the assurance that speed cameras are in places where they improve road safety – not just raise revenue,” Mr O'Farrell said.

“Motorists have genuine concerns speed cameras have become cash cows under Labor” he said.

“I am determined to restore confidence in road safety and part of that commitment includes the delivery of an additional 100 highway patrol officers and additional police vehicles.

“If any of the State's 172 fixed speed cameras are found to have no effect on road safety, they will be ripped out.

“The RTA has advised the NSW Government there are already some cameras it has targeted as ineffective and these will obviously be closely assessed in audit,” Mr O'Farrell said.

The terms of reference for the Auditor-General's investigation include:

- The evidence basis supporting the use of speed cameras to improve road safety;
- Before and after analysis of crashes at fixed speed camera locations;
- The impact of the re-introduced mobile speed cameras; and,
- How speed camera operations could be refined to improve road safety.

Mr Gay said the NSW Government has long stated its preference for visible marked highway patrol cars over receiving a ticket in the mail about a month after the offence.

“Speed cameras have a place in the suite of road safety measures, but the NSW Government is determined to ensure they are only in places where they make roads safer – not where their sole purpose is to generate money for government.

“It is expected the audit will take about three months,” Mr Gay said.