

# More than a strip of paint needed to keep cyclists safe

April 10 2019

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Dr. Ben Beck. Credit: Monash University

Research published in the journal *Accident Analysis and Prevention* today shows that marked on-road bicycle lanes and parked cars reduce the distance that motorists provide when passing cyclists.

In the largest study of its kind in the world, data was collected on 60

cyclists in Melbourne who rode their bicycles with a custom device (the 'MetreBox') installed to quantify the [distance](#) that [motor vehicle drivers](#) provide when passing cyclists. More than 18,000 vehicle passing events from 422 trips were recorded.

One in every 17 passing events (n=1085) came within one metre of the travelling cyclist and, alarmingly, 124 passing events came within less than 60cm. In higher speed zones, greater than 60 km/h, roughly one in every three (n=293) passing events was a 'close' pass (

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