



**THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A
KOALA-FRIENDLY
ROAD**



Eighty-five per cent of Koalas hit by a car die. Between 1997 and 2013, more than 8,000 Koalas died in South East Queensland as a result of cars.

That's the official story; but it is estimated that for every dead Koala recovered, another two (or more) crawl off into the bush to die, never to be seen.

Vehicle mortality is highest where roads cut through Koala habitat. The faster the speed limit, the greater the threat to Koalas.

Not only do roads increase the risk of vehicle strike, they also increase the risk from dogs. Roads help dogs access Koala habitat, while forcing Koalas down from their trees and across open ground.

Research conducted by the Australian Koala Foundation (AKF) shows that Koala populations within 2km of a disturbance such as a new road, are likely to become extinct. Mortality and habitat fragmentation are driving these localized extinctions.

And yet, we build a new road rather than upgrade an existing road.



Why?

Economics. The cheapest option is not to upgrade the existing highway. Instead a whole new road is built, because the "bush costs nothing" to knock down. But what is the cost long-term?

Building through existing bush often means cutting straight through important and critical Koala Habitat.

The Koala Protection Act

The Koala Protection Act (KPA) will protect Koalas and Koala habitat by ensuring that new infrastructure will be designed to ensure a benign impact on local and regional Koalas.