Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Gerry McCarthy, today joined the College of Physicians, the Australian Medical Association, the College of Surgeons and the College for Emergency Medicine in calling for a halt to the CLP Government’s open speed limit trial.

“The CLP Government is being chaotic and inconsistent with their road safety policies,” Mr McCarthy said.

“One minute the CLP Government is launching a road safety program with the NTFL and doubling speeding fines citing the move as a “safety measure” and the next they are opening up a “public speedway” along a 200km stretch of Territory road.

“This irresponsible trial is being slammed by medical professionals who will have to deal with the tragic consequences and casualties should shallow CLP election promises be fulfilled.”

Mr McCarthy again called on the CLP Government to release secret reports used to justify the open speed limit trial.

“$1 million in taxpayer’s funds was committed to compiling four reports to justify this dangerous trial, but to date no evidence from these reports has been presented to the public,” Mr McCarthy said.

Mr McCarthy sent a letter to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, Peter Styles, requesting details around what the CLP Government is spending on infrastructure up-grades on the Stuart Highway “public speedway” to ensure it is safe?

“What Road Safety Education & Awareness programs will be initiated for locals, visitors & tourists highlighting the fact that on the CLP Public Speedway the ‘dot on the horizon’ could now be a single vehicle travelling in excess of 200km per hour?” Mr McCarthy asked.

“The CLP Government has a track record of mismanagement and reckless abandon when it comes to policy decisions – hopefully no Territorian families have to pay with their lives for the Government to realise they are being reckless and dangerous with this policy.”

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