

# Two cassowaries killed

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**THE deaths of two cassowaries in a fortnight on roads near Mission Beach has a group of residents calling for speed cameras and lower speed limits.**

Twenty of the endangered birds have died on the roads in nine years at the small tourist town, south of Cairns, that is known for its "big birds".

Dogs have killed another 16 cassowaries in that time.

Yesterday more than 40 residents gathered near Mission Beach Police Station – close to a sweeping bend where a juvenile cassowary was run over on Friday – and called for immediate action especially at known cassowary crossings.

A juvenile female cassowary was killed there in a "hit and run" on Friday, weeks after an adult cassowary died on the nearby Mission Beach-El Arish Rd.

Both roads border rainforest and have 80km/h speed limits. The juvenile cassowary died at a spot where other birds have also been hit.

Mission Beach's Liz Gallie said cameras needed to be installed to deter speeding drivers, and she called for further speed reductions, signs and traffic-slowing methods.

She said a researcher had recently estimated only 55 of the endangered birds remained in the area.



**Flash and brakes campaign:** Mission Beach's Liz Gallie and more than 40 other concerned residents protest at the site where a cassowary was hit on Friday.

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THE re-introduction of Jetstar's four weekly direct services to Osaka in Japan and a doubling of flights to Melbourne from April 1 next year are the first significant announcements today by the airline as the result of a new