Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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Submitter Comments:

I am pleased to see the increase in ebikes (etc) in my area. I live on a busy main road with a huge amount of foot and bike traffic. I love the mobility and environmental savings that ebikes afford. I am concerned about the safety of riders and pedestrians. I believe that a three-pronged approach is necessary to encourage further safe use of these vehicles. The elements are: legislation, education and road design.Legislation is necessary to further control the misuse of the cars and trucks that pose the greatest danger to bike riders. Maintaining distance from riders could be legislated. Annual safety checks should be mandated. P-plate drivers should only be allowed to drive small, safe, unmodified, less powerful vehicles. Ebike riders should not be allowed to ride on pedestrian footpaths and should give way to pedestrians on roads by law. Penalties should apply to unsafe riding of ebikes. Education is key. Safe riding should be taught in schools. Learner drivers should be taught how to respond to riders on the road. Public information campaigns should be released on social media sites. The main impediment to safe bike riding is poor road design. The 60 km speed limit on my street is absolutely ridiculous! The standard speed limit should be reduced to 40 kms. Bike lanes are clogged with cars, trailers and caravans. Bike lanes should be cleared of vehicles. Many streets could be converted to be one-way with bike lanes or have parking on one-side only. Safety barriers and lane markers could be retro-fitted to many streets. Thanks for listening!