

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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Submitter Comments:

I have lived at my address for nearly 20yrs. I am 53yrs old. My submission is to bring to your attention the dangerous riding of the e bikes and e scooters from Palmwoods to Woombye by school children. The numbers have exploded over the last 12 months. The pathway between the suburbs have a lot of hills. The speed the children come down the pathway is extremely dangerous. They give you no warning they are approaching behind (sometimes two abreast), at Im sure up to 30klm, and pass by within inches. If I was to take a step one inch either way and not see/hear them behind me, I think I would be severely injured. It should be at least mandatory they have a bell or horn 100% and be used. I see less and less elderly people going on their walks on this pathway. The kids act like they have right of way. We all move our dogs off the path and wait as they fly by laughing. The speeds they go at are very fast. I feel for the elderly as I would also like to keep walking this path as I get older. We currently have a school kid that likes to pop monos on his e bike while filming himself with his helmet camera. He goes from the Woombye primary to June Street and does a U-turn and pops a mono going the other way. He does this for an hour, and he is in the middle of the road. The kids that have the e bikes that look like small motor bikes are usually the worst. They truly think they are riding a motorbike. Im all for kids having fun but they have no respect for pedestrians on the footpaths. I can name one boy who goes slow and thanks me for moving and one older man who beeps his horn for me. I would like to also point out how crazy it is that the e scooters are allowed to share the footpath along the busy Mooloolaba esplanade. They zip through the cafes as well. The amount of time myself or a family member has had to jump out of the way after being brushed by a e scooter there. My mother is elderly and was strolling along the beach side esplanade path and was abused by an older person on an e scooter behind her, because she didn't get out of his way. She didn't even know he was there. No horn. I have watched while that pathway is packed and whole family's (tourists) are on their e scooters weaving in and out. Everyone had to move to the side and let them through. I myself would like to get an e scooter one day and be able to go from Woombye to Palmwoods. But I am honestly afraid I will get cleaned up by a kid flogging along down the hills. There should be some speed reducing feature on any e bike/scooter that a KID is riding, and I would say as they are motorised, they should be registered and be checked they cant go over a certain speed and have a horn / bell on them. Thank you rant over :)