Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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Submitted by:

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Submitter Comments:

I believe there are many benefits to e-mobility devices. However, unless there are strong regulations controlling their use, they may become a danger to the public using footpaths and roads. I do not have a car, and walk around Maroochydore and the Sunshine Coast area every day. I am continually being frightened by e-scooters and e-bikes which exceed the current local council's speed limit on footpaths which I understand is 14 kilometers per hour. Many of these units fly past at speeds far in excess of this. Many of the e-bikes are the size of small motor bikes with large wheels. These bikes are silent and give no indication that they are about to pass. Many of these powerful e-bikes are ridden by children under 15 and carry passengers. Many do not have helmets. I am elderly and cannot walk in a straight line. I wander a little as I walk and I am continually frightened that I will move slightly into a bike's path and suffer injury. Who will pay my medical bills? Very few of these bikes are registered nor do they carry third party insurance. How do I identify the person who has caused the injury? In my opinion, e-bikes and e-scooters which are limited to a speed equal to the current speed limitation for footpaths in that area, should be allowed to ride on the footpath however they must have a bell, which must be used before overtaking a pedestrian. All other units should be registered and carry third party insurance and not be ridden on footpaths. There needs to be an obvious enforcement of these laws once enacted. In our area, I am pleased to say that not all e-scooter and e-bike riders that I encounter fly by me without letting me know they are there and they slow down as they pass by. This is much appreciated. I wish all could be as thoughtful..