

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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Submitter Comments:

1. As an elderly person and have trouble walking and on most occasions use a walking stick, I am petrified by scooters and even mobility devices for those who can not walk wizzing up from behind to pass without giving a warning bell or similar. I have been hit by these devices more than once as they pass too close, travel too fast and many expect you to get out of the way so they don't have to deviate even though there is often enough room on the footpath to do so unless the path is very narrow. I can not step onto the verge to allow them to pass as the soft or uneven surface could cause me to fall and I can not risk getting bone fractures at my age. 2. Even where there is a bike track or other viable place to ride scooters or even push bikes, they use the footpath and create a danger to pedestrians because they travel too fast even when they are approaching you. 3. In heavy traffic areas for pedestrians such as in the Brisbane CBD, Escooters weave in and out through heavy pedestrian traffic often at speed and do not give way to pedestrians and I have actually been hit or clipped by these devices and they don't stop to even say sorry or to see if you are injured. 4. Escooters are often left on footpaths in any position and are a tripping hazard. On one occasion in a narrow footpath in Fortitude Valley I came across two Escooters dump on the footpath between the building and a light pole and I could not progress any further as the kerb was too deep for me to step on the roadway to get past. If I got onto the roadway I could not have got back up over the kerb until I came across a driveway. 5. Escooters and even push bikes take up spaces on public transport, especially trains and they occupy priority seats which are there for people like me who are elderly and have mobility issues due to chronic arthritis in both knees. They do not seem to want to move them to allow you to sit on a seat. 6. I have come across speeding Escooters on public roads where they travel at speed, often not wearing helmets and in addition are very hard to see because of their size and the rider often wear dark clothing and not high visibility clothing. You don't expect to see them on roads the few times that I even drive.