

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

Submission No: 459
Submitted by: Michael Stephens
Publication: Making the submission and your name public
Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

I owned an e-scooter for 2 years and have now owned my e-bike for about 4 years, both bought from reputable local suppliers. Unfortunately, my scooter was stolen from outside my work but at the time when I bought it, it served as the catalyst for selling my car, which was the second car in the family. Between the scooter and the e-bike with a child seat on it, we were able to live very comfortably with only one car and have saved tens of thousands of dollars in vehicular and transport costs over the years. I have found my e-bike to be an excellent form of transport and with the storage capacity of the bike it allows me to do shopping and run errands as well. I have concerns that there are a small number of e-bikes and scooters that don't behave safely and are not speed limited but I worry more about the government suppressing their overall use to limit such a small number of offenders. I also believe a lot of the other safety concerns come from there being a severe underinvestment in safe cycling/mobility transport which has forced bikes and pedestrians to use shared paths - causing the conflicts that I hear people complaining about regards bikes and scooters. It is my firm belief that if the government heavily invests in the separated cycling infrastructure required to make cycling/scooting more efficient, safe and distinct from pedestrians that our transport system can be more sustainable, more carbon friendly, reduce traffic, increase livability and address the concerns about scooters from pedestrians.