

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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Submitter Comments:

I have personally had several near miss incidents involving both e-scooters and e-bikes in my local area when driving and walking. (A) when driving and slowing to turn a corner, whilst looking right I looked back straight ahead to see a young person scooting directly across in front of my car. Had I not been going so slow I would have collected him as he was only centimetres from the bonnet of my car. He also was not wearing a helmet. This traumatised me as I think through the possible outcomes had I hit him. He obviously had no idea of road rules nor fear of the risk he was taking.

(B) When walking along paths, many, many times I have had e-scooter or bikes come up behind me and overtake me. As they are so quiet it is difficult to hear them or have any warning they are there. Should I decide to step out they would surely collect me. More times than not these e-bikes and e-scooters are moving at a fair pace. They have been driven by people of various ages from children through to adults. Again, most times they are not wearing helmets. Whilst walking with my elderly mum in a park at Southbank a young person on an e-scooter came up at considerable speed behind us and snuck past, narrowly missing my mum who is a bit unsteady on her feet and had a walking frame. We had no idea he was there and both my mum and I got a considerable shock at the near miss. Also I frequently see these mobile 'vehicles' being ridden at considerable speed down and around our local roads, many doing wheelies and again, not wearing helmets. I would like to see: these e-bikes and e-scooter riders policed more closely for their speed and use of helmets as they are being ridden on our roads, all riders should require a licence and knowledge of road rules they should not be allowed on pedestrian pathways. These e-bikes and e-scooters pose a great risk to pedestrians, drivers and themselves. Indeed I can understand Singapore in banning them altogether. How many more lives must be lost or injuries sustained before something is done? I implore you to take radical action and to do so quickly.