Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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Submitted by:

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Submitter Comments:

I write concerning the use of e-bikes, e-scooters, and skateboards. My husband and I, along with many others, enjoy walking along the river near our home on most days. Some of the walkers are quite elderly or are young families with prams. The users of these vehicles are often quite young and inexperienced, and travelling fast. Even with parents in tow, they are usually too far ahead to be safe. The paths are called FOOTPATHS for a reason. They are there so that people can walk safely and not have to dodge fast vehicles, which often come without warning, and expect the walkers to get out of their way. On one occasion, I was crossing a road after collecting my grandchildren from school. A young man on an e-scooter cut the corner at high speed, and if I had not taken evasive action, my grandchildren and I would have been knocked to the ground. He didn't slow down despite nearly colliding with us. There is a need for legislation, penalties, and rules to govern the use of these vehicles. We have just returned from a visit to China, and there are dedicated laneways for bikes and scooters as part of the road system. None of these vehicles use the footpaths, which are reserved for people on foot. Forward planning needs to happen so that all users of the roads and footpaths can do so safety.