

## Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

**Submission No:** 557  
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**Publication:** Making the submission and your name public  
**Attachments:** No attachment

### Submitter Comments:

Dear Committee Members, The current freedoms that eScooter/ eBikes/ eSkateboards enjoy due to a lack of appropriate Government laws has given rise to what I consider to be irresponsible and dangerous behaviour that is threatening to pedestrian footpath and vehicle road users. While the primary group of irresponsible riders appears to be in the teenager segment, I have also witnessed some outrageous incidents committed on these eMobility devices by adult users. The hospital statistics also reveal a growing level of severe injuries (and fatalities) to eRiders and their pedestrian victims which is unfair to the community as it increases medical costs which long term can further add to the financial stress for Medicare and potential to increase taxes on taxpayers. Some suggestions given the 'out of control' situation we have with riders of eScooters/ eBikes/ eSkateboards:

- 1-Limit Age of Riders: would recommend that no riders under the age of 16 years.
- 2-Register each eVehicle: the potential speed of eScooters/ eBikes/ eSkateboards can be high and beyond the speed that some petrol based scooters are capable of yet they are not registered. I have witnessed riders passing cars on the road and ignoring road rules when doing so. When a eRider breaks the law, it's impossible to track them down given their speed to get away and transverse roads, gutters, footpaths and small passageways. Hence, we need a Rego plate to be able to identify these riders when needed. The Registration Fee could also be used to fund eVehicle compliance with new laws.
- 3-Limit Power & Speeds: it appears that many of these eVehicles are capable of speed levels way beyond 60 kmh so, it seems logical to limit these devices. This would mean laws that impose power limits to moderate speed limits on manufacturers and the need to retro restrict the engine outputs to the current eVehicles already in the community.
- 4-Limit Access to Bicycle Lanes on Roads: given the speed, weight and silence of an eVehicles, it is inappropriate that they be permitted to use pedestrian footpaths. This is to protect the pedestrians from danger and injury.
- 5-Enforcement Must Occur: no good having new rules/ laws if there is no enforcement. Already we seem to have rules about a helmet must be worn and that you cannot double with a second passenger but I see this doubling occurring every day and almost no rider wears a helmet. BYW, the same enforcement is needed for the Bicycle laws that exist....why are helmets not worn by most riders?? If this enforcement is not a priority for the Police force, why not establish Rangers to work on compliance of these type of laws. In Tokyo where I lived for 14 years, they deployed Rangers to walk around key areas of the city to enforce Bicycle parking laws, Car parking rules and recently eScooter/ eBike laws. Many retired people might be open to being a part-time Ranger....doing good community service. Thank you for considering my points.....please take action soon to reduce the injury and death toll from these ePersonal Transport Vehicles.