

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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Submitter Comments:

I am writing as a concerned resident of Brisbane regarding the growing safety and accessibility issues caused by the widespread and poorly regulated use of e-scooters and other personal electric vehicles in our city. While I understand and support the goal of encouraging sustainable and low-emission transport options, the current state of e-mobility in Brisbane — especially rental e-scooters and personal scooters used for delivery services — has become a serious public safety and urban planning concern. The issues are numerous:

Blocked Footpaths: Shared e-scooters are frequently left in the middle of walkways, at crossings, and even on ramps — posing serious accessibility challenges for people with disabilities, parents with prams, and the elderly.

Flood Risk & Negligence: When it rains or floods, many of these e-scooters appear to be swept into the river or damaged beyond repair, raising both environmental and public safety concerns.

Dangerous Scooter Use by Delivery Drivers: The most pressing issue is the rising number of personal e-scooters used by food delivery drivers. These vehicles travel at dangerously high speeds, often on footpaths, and the riders often appear to have little regard for pedestrian safety. There are no clear laws being followed, and enforcement is virtually non-existent. I've had my phone knocked out of my hand by a fast-moving scooter and have experienced multiple near-collisions as a pedestrian. I also personally know someone who was hit and seriously injured, requiring hospitalisation.

If Brisbane is going to continue to allow e-mobility services in its urban spaces, there must be:

- Clear, enforceable laws around where and how scooters can be operated.
- Heavy fines for dangerous riding, footpath misuse, or poor parking.
- A visible enforcement strategy to protect pedestrian safety.
- Specific regulation of private scooter use for commercial purposes.

Our streets should be safe and accessible for everyone — not just convenient for riders. I urge the city to take immediate and meaningful action before more people are harmed.