

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

Submission No:	679
Submitted by:	Giuseppe Gambasin
Publication:	Making the submission and your name public
Attachments:	See attachment
Submitter Comments:	

Giuseppe Gambasin



14 June 2025

To: Qld Parliament Committees: Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

Subject: Safety Concerns – Dangerous Use of Electric Devices in Cotton Tree Park, Maroochydore, Qld, 4558

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my growing concern about the unsafe and irresponsible use of electric scooters, e-bikes (particularly those with oversized tyres), and electric skateboards along the shared pedestrian and bike paths in Cotton Tree Park, Maroochydore, 4558.

As a local resident, I regularly witness behaviour that poses serious risks to the safety and wellbeing of all who use this space—particularly families with young children, elderly people, and those with mobility issues.

Key Issues:

- Riders frequently travel at speeds that appear to exceed 50km/h, comparable to cars previously driving along The Esplanade before the recent speed reduction to 30km/h. This is far too fast for a shared public space.
- Many riders are not wearing helmets, and in some cases, I've seen up to three people riding on a single device.
- Riders often fail to alert pedestrians (e.g. by ringing a bell), and at the speeds they are travelling, even proper warning may not be effective. Additionally, some riders have been seen performing wheelies along the road.
- A neighbour who walks with a stick has been abused by riders for not getting out of the way quickly enough—despite clearly being unable to respond at the speeds these riders approach.

Suggested Actions:

1. While e-devices are legally speed-limited, these limits can easily be bypassed with online instructions. Enforcement through speed checks and appropriate penalties is urgently needed.
2. Police or authorised officers are rarely seen patrolling the park. Regular patrols using speed guns and issuing infringements would send a strong message that reckless behaviour is unacceptable.
3. Introduce registration plates or visible identification for e-bikes and scooters. Require riders to carry ID so rules can be enforced. Review age restrictions for riders of high-powered electric devices.
4. Habitual offenders should have their devices confiscated. Enforcement actions should be publicised through local and social media channels to create deterrence and combat influencer culture that glamorises illegal riding behaviour.

Cotton Tree Park is a valued public space that should remain safe and inclusive for everyone. I respectfully urge the relevant authorities to act before someone is seriously injured.

I welcome your response and would appreciate being informed about any planned or ongoing measures to address these concerns.

Kind regards,

Giuseppe Gambasin