Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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Submitted by: [redacted]

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Submitter Comments:

Emobility devices have become an integral part of the transportation network. I ride a legal ebike and have rarely had any issues with high powered devices or other legal devices. I have noticed the explosion in use of escooters and ebikes. I believe these need to be supported and encouraged. Media reports have been highlighting the risks and injuries and demonising a form of transport like they have done for years for cyclists. I'm not sure if there has been any work done on this but the increase in injuries may simply be due to increased use rather than increasing risk. Some points below:• The Government have the opportunity to reduce crash rates significantly by providing better/safer off-road e-bicycle/e-scooter riding infrastructure is needed (Brisbane (and Qld) is woeful)• A significantly increased and clearly identified Department of Transport and Main Roads active transport budget and performance measure/s re active travel growth are needed• More education is needed for drivers on the rules for giving way to active transport users to also reduce crash ratesMore education is needed for parents on the risks of the very high powered emobility devices as often they purchase them for their children. • Qld needs to improved e-mobility device utilisation data and crash data collection and availability of same for policy research• Qld should reduce the default urban speed limit to 30km/h to adopt internationally-recognised, best practice “Safe Streets” standards• More controlled shared e-scooter parking should be applied to remove trip hazards and footpath obstruction for path users• Increase the speed limit of legal e-bikes to 30/km/h (commensurate with other people traveling on wheels in local/back streets)• There is no need for helmet law changes or licensing of riders The fines for cyclists and emobility device users is way out of proportion to the risk to themselves and others. • Research has shown that the type of shared e-scooters riding leading to crashes can be reduced by using technology to address - mobile phone use while riding, one-handed riding, and people riding in packs.