Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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Submitter Comments:

I'm a retired 75-year-old living at Broadbeach Waters on the Gold Coast. I walk most mornings. It is now increasingly risky to walk on the footpath. Most school students choose to use the footpath to ride their e-bikes/scooters on their way to and from school. I've seen it all..... it's beyond belief that more aren't killed or maimed because of the speed they choose to travel... One user approached from behind & I heard 'excuse me'. I was walking on one side edge of the footpath, & she obviously expected me to move off the footpath for her. As she sped past, she had a friend on board who wasn't wearing a helmet. I notice friends who are being given a ride not wearing helmets all the time. One boy had two girls, (perhaps around 12-14), riding on his machine, both without helmets. Many young riders choose not to wear helmets. The other day, I witnessed a boy (perhaps 10-14) riding in the bike lane surrounded by many cars as they all approached a round-about. He had two mates on a e-bike behind (one without a helmet) & decided to show off his skills(???) by riding on his back wheel as he approached the round-about. THE BIGGEST CONCERN IS THESE YOUNGESTERS ARE BEING PERMITTED TO RIDE MOTORISED VEHICLES ON OUR ROADS & FOOTPATHS, OFTEN ENGAGING IN RISKY BEHAVIOUR. IT'S PROVEN THAT YOUNG BRAINS ARE STILL DEVELOPING WELL INTO THEIR 20'S & HAVE POOR JUDGEMENT. ALL TOO OFTEN IT CAN RESULT IN LIFE CHANGING CONSEQUENCES, IF THEY SURVIVE.