

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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Submission to Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

As a private citizen, I have many times been unnerved by e-scooters and e-bicycles whizzing by on footpaths where I was walking.

I have become very cautious when walking on footpaths. I never know when there may be one of these dangerous devices coming behind me at high speed. If I were hit, I could be knocked over and suffer broken bones or other injury. As I am 77 years old, this is a serious consideration for me, especially if I am about to turn to one way or the other. My balance is not perfect, so I can lurch to the side without warning.

I recommend the following:

1. E-mobility devices should not be allowed on footpaths.
2. If they are to be allowed on footpaths, their speed should be restricted by law to walking pace – about 5 km/hr.
3. If they are to be allowed on footpaths, they should be required to have and use noisemakers (“clickers”) so their approach from the rear can be heard.
4. Hire of e-mobility devices should be banned. Casual hirers are more likely not to care about the people around them and discard the devices after use. This can be seen from the way commercial e-mobility devices are often left blocking footpaths after being used.