

## Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

**Submission No:** 873  
**Submitted by:** Save Our Southern Gold Coast  
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**Submitter Comments:**

Submission Regarding Bike Safety on Southern Gold Coast, Queensland To Whom It May Concern, I am writing on behalf of Save Our Southern Gold Coast to bring urgent attention to the safety concerns regarding bicycle and electric scooter usage in our community on the Southern Gold Coast, particularly around areas such as Palm Beach and Currumbin. In recent months, I have observed numerous near misses involving e-bikes both on footpaths and on, many of whom disregard basic road safety regulations. This has raised significant concerns about the safety of both pedestrians and other road users. Instances of individuals riding on sidewalks, navigating against the flow of traffic, and performing dangerous stunts, such as wheelies, have unfortunately become commonplace. Most troubling is the evident lack of adherence to safety protocols, including riding without helmets, riding in pairs or even groups at times with 3 people on board, and ignoring traffic signals.

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These shocking occurrences highlight a critical public safety issue that must be addressed immediately. Further exacerbating the situation are cases where adults operate scooters at high speeds without any protective gear, one had an infant strapped to himself endangering himself and the infant. Such reckless behaviour cannot be overlooked, and it highlights a broader trend of irresponsibility among a significant portion of e-bike users in our community. I recognize that law enforcement may face limitations in enforcing traffic regulations, particularly regarding e-bike-related incidents. Reports suggest that police need to involve towing services before they can issue fines, leading to delays and potentially worsening the situation. Then the police are not to pursue the e-bike riders in case of further injuries. It is imperative that we find more efficient solutions to hold violators accountable and improve public safety. It is my understanding that many of the "fatboy" style bikes currently seen on our roads may not comply with local laws, raising questions about their legality. As a community, we need to explore whether these vehicles can be regulated more effectively, possibly through designated lanes or restrictions on footpath access. Perhaps there needs to be legislation to register, insure the vehicle and require a license to ride them? Our community has frequently raised these issues in public forums, where discussions with local police have also emphasised the need for actionable solutions. We urge all stakeholders to come together in a collaborative effort to address this concerning trend. We would welcome the opportunity to participate in ongoing discussions and be part of the community-led initiatives that aim to enhance safety for all who utilize our roads and pathways. Let us work towards ensuring that our Southern Gold Coast remains a safe and enjoyable environment for everyone. Thank you for considering this important matter. Together, we can forge a path towards improved bike safety and community well-being.