

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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Submitter Comments:

I only heard about this inquiry this week and was shocked to see that the time for submission was ending today. As a result this will not be a very polished submission. Powered personal mobility devices such as wheelchairs and disability scooters require registration, so I cannot understand why the newer e-bikes and scooters are not registered. Queensland should ensure devices are registered so that operators can be identified and held responsible for their actions. I have never understood why Queensland still allows adults to ride push bikes on footpaths, but at least the frequency of encounter was less common, and bike riders were more likely to have a bell to indicate they were going to overtake. I do remember near misses when my children were small (and their movements unpredictable). I am glad I am not trying to protect children from this new wave of footpath users. One step sideways at the wrong time could easily result in an accident, and children and the elderly are particularly vulnerable. From many years of pushing strollers, and more recently my elderly parents in wheelchairs, I know that obstacles on footpaths are not always possible to circumvent. Yet this is where many of the scooters are still being left after use. I would prefer Brisbane to follow the City of Melbourne's lead and end the availability of shared e-scooters completely.