

# Transport and Other Legislation (Managing E-mobility Use and Protecting Our Communities) Amendment Bill 2026

**Submission No:** 1163  
**Submission By:** Mary Valley Rail Trail Association Inc  
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The Mary Valley Rail Trail is a shared path for pedestrians, cyclists and horses. After reading the proposed legislation, it is currently unclear whether rail trails will be included in the 'shared path' definition. If rail trails were to be included in the definition of a 'shared path', this would significantly impact the use of these long-distance trails, given the 10km/hr speed limit that will apply to e-bikes. This would result in a considerable economic loss to regional and rural communities that currently benefit greatly from e-bike users who enjoy rail trails across Queensland.

Rail trail corridors are generally wide and flat (given they were train corridors) and therefore provide good visibility of other users. It is impractical and unnecessary to impose a 10km/hr e-bike speed limit on this type of recreational trail. It is, in fact, unsafe, given multiple studies on bicycle operational stability have shown that bicycles travelling at below 11km/hr can become unstable (as published in Department of Transport and Main Roads [DTMR] guidelines in 2020). In addition, DTMR's Deputy Director General Geoff Magoffin stated in March 2025, during the 'Inquiry into E-mobility Safety and Use', that "the department is not aware of any significant safety issues with legal e-bike use; however, we are very concerned about the increasing use of illegal devices".

Clearly, there is a significant issue with the number and unsafe use of illegal e-bikes and we strongly support new legislation to restrict their use to licensed and registered users. This should be the focus of any new legislation. We feel, however, that e-bikes that are legal under the current definition (i.e., those that are pedal-assisted with maximum power of 250W and cut out at 25km/hr, as per EN15194 international standard) should be exempt from the proposed legislative changes.

Given the current fuel crisis and the global obesity epidemic, the use of legal e-bikes should be encouraged as an alternative means of active transport within our communities.