

**Submission
No 20**

**INQUIRY INTO USE OF E-SCOOTERS, E-BIKES AND
RELATED MOBILITY OPTIONS**

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Introduction

As an electric unicycle (EUC) rider, I am pleased to contribute to the discussion on the use of e-scooters, e-bikes, and related mobility options in New South Wales. Electric unicycles are self-balancing devices that provide a unique and efficient mode of transportation. This submission highlights the benefits of electric unicycles and similar personal mobility devices for traffic management, user health, public transport integration, and potential applications for police forces and postal services.

Benefits to Traffic Management

Electric unicycles and similar devices offer a significant advantage in reducing traffic congestion. These compact and agile forms of transportation can easily navigate through dense urban areas, reducing the number of cars on the road. By promoting the use of EUCs, we can alleviate pressure on our roadways, decrease traffic jams, and contribute to a smoother and more efficient flow of vehicles.

Physical and Mental Health Benefits

Riding an electric unicycle provides substantial physical and mental health benefits. Despite common misconceptions, riding an EUC requires balance and coordination, engaging core muscles and improving overall fitness. Regular use of an EUC can also lead to increased physical activity, promoting a healthier lifestyle.

Mentally, the experience of riding an EUC offers a unique sense of freedom and exhilaration. The focus required to maintain balance and navigate through various terrains can be a form of mindfulness, reducing stress and enhancing mental well-being. The outdoor exposure and connection with the environment further contribute to improved mental health.

Complement to Existing Public Transport

Electric unicycles serve as an excellent complement to existing public transport systems. With a range exceeding 100 kilometers, EUCs provide a reliable solution for the "last mile" problem, enabling users to easily travel from public transport stations to their final destinations. This integration encourages more people to use public transport, knowing they have a convenient and efficient way to complete their journeys.

Environmental Impact

EUCs are environmentally friendly, producing zero emissions during operation. They contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gases and air pollution, aligning with NSW's goals for sustainability and environmental protection. Additionally, EUCs do not require special power points for charging, as they can be charged using standard electrical outlets, making them convenient and accessible.

Ease of Maintenance

Electric unicycles are known for their ease of maintenance. Unlike traditional vehicles, EUCs do not have conventional braking systems, reducing the need for brake maintenance and replacement. The absence of a complex drivetrain also means fewer components that can wear out or require servicing. This simplicity in design translates to lower maintenance costs and less downtime for repairs, making EUCs a practical and economical choice for personal transportation.

Off-Road Capabilities

One of the remarkable features of electric unicycles is their ability to handle off-road conditions with ease. Whether navigating through urban landscapes or traversing rugged trails, EUCs offer a smooth and controlled ride. This versatility makes them suitable for a variety of environments, further enhancing their appeal as a multipurpose mobility option.

Applications for Police Forces and Postal Services

The versatility and efficiency of electric unicycles make them beneficial for various professional applications. For police forces, EUCs offer a quick and agile mode of transport for patrolling urban areas, enabling officers to respond rapidly to incidents while navigating through traffic and pedestrian zones with ease.

Similarly, postal services can benefit from the use of EUCs for mail and package delivery. The compact size and maneuverability of EUCs allow postal workers to cover large areas quickly, especially in congested urban environments. This can lead to increased efficiency and reduced operational costs.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the adoption of electric unicycles and similar mobility options presents numerous benefits for traffic management, public health, environmental sustainability, ease of maintenance, and professional applications. As an EUC rider, I strongly advocate for the support and promotion of these devices within NSW. Embracing this innovative mode of transportation will contribute to a more efficient, healthier, and sustainable future for our communities.

Thank you for considering this submission. I am confident that with the right support, electric unicycles and related mobility options can greatly enhance the quality of life in New South Wales.