

**Submission  
No 63**

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

**Name:** Mr Ross Attrill

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Ross Attrill

11th of July 2024

Legislative Council  
Portfolio Committee No. 6 - Transport and the Arts

Dear Sirs and Madams,

**Re: Inquiry into the use of e-scooters, e-bikes and related mobility options**

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission regarding the use of e-scooters and e-bikes in NSW.

I do realize that the extensive use of cars in Sydney is an environmental and social catastrophe and I can see that e-bikes and similar might help with this. Unfortunately, the way that e-bikes are being used around Sydney currently is problematic and I am glad to be able to express these concerns to you.

**1. Continue the policy of no rental e-scooters in Sydney**

Melbourne has rental e-scooters in the CBD - but their CBD has much wider pedestrian walkways and the situation seems to work there. The Sydney CBD isn't as spacious as Melbourne so I am very glad that we don't have rental e-scooters here. They are big and heavy machines that go fast. Whatever it is that you are doing to keep rental e-scooters away from the Sydney CBD please keep doing it.

**2. Please deal with dangerous e-bikes in high traffic pedestrian areas**

The prevalence of e-bikes - mostly ridden by food delivery riders like Uber Eats around high pedestrian areas around the Sydney CBD is an **outrageous** risk to public safety. A key area of concern to me is Darling Harbour - from Haymarket down to the ICC - where on weekend evenings there are thousands of people walking and many, many delivery riders speeding through the area on powered bikes at very high speed. It is only a matter of time before a pedestrian is killed in the area and there must have been awful accidents already.

NSW Police and Sydney City rangers need to allocate resources or be given resources to police these areas. What is happening in that area must contravene existing state laws and council regulations.

Personally, I would like to see all food delivery services such as this made illegal except for people who have a disability and can't pick up food for themselves.

### **3. Please stop the littering of public space and pathways with rental e-bikes**

Rental e-bikes from Lime and others are being left all over the place - across pathways, in parks and dumped in the harbour. They must be a nuisance for disabled people who can't walk around them easily and they are terrible eye-sore. The bikes are often graffitied. Our beautiful harbour areas are being polluted by this industry.

Local councils need to be empowered to treat these bikes as litter, pick them up, send them for recycling and then fine the companies who own them.

Having dedicated areas where these bikes can be returned to would help and would require co-operation between councils and the rental companies.

Several years ago - before Lime and all that rubbish - Melbourne City Council provided rental bikes that could only be picked up and returned to dedicated areas. The service was provided by the city council, the bikes were well maintained and there was no litter problem. The situation now in Sydney where we have bikes just thrown all over the place isn't much good.

I would like to see rental e-bike services provided by the councils rather than these private companies.

### **4. Please ban e-bikes from pedestrian footpaths**

E-bikes should not be on pedestrian footpaths. Motorbikes don't ride on footpaths - nor should e-bikes or e-scooters.

Thank you for the opportunity to get this off my chest. I hope that the committee and relevant government agencies can come up with constructive solutions to these problems.

Yours faithfully,

Ross Attrill