

**Submission  
No 71**

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

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## Submission Against the Use of E-Scooters, E-Bikes, and Related Mobility Options in Pathways

### Introduction:

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the use of e-scooters, e-bikes, and similar electric mobility devices on pathways in New South Wales. While these modes of transport offer convenience, their presence poses significant risks to vulnerable pedestrians, especially children and elderly commuters. This submission aims to highlight these dangers and advocate for stricter regulations to ensure the safety of all pathway users.

### Safety Concerns:

**Speed and Control:** E-scooters and e-bikes can travel at considerable speeds, often exceeding those of pedestrians. This speed discrepancy creates a hazardous environment where collisions and accidents are more likely, particularly in crowded areas.

**Risk of Collisions:** Pathways are shared spaces where pedestrians, including children and elderly individuals, have an expectation of safety and ease of movement. The introduction of fast-moving electric vehicles increases the risk of collisions and conflicts, leading to injuries and potential fatalities.

**Accessibility Issues:** Elderly commuters and individuals with disabilities may find it difficult to anticipate or react to the sudden presence of e-scooters and e-bikes on pathways. This can create barriers to accessibility and discourage vulnerable populations from using public pathways altogether.

**Safety of Children:** Children are particularly susceptible to accidents involving e-scooters and e-bikes due to their size, inability to judge distances, and limited awareness of their surroundings. Allowing these vehicles on pathways increases the likelihood of accidents involving children, endangering their safety.

### Regulatory Recommendations:

**Separate Infrastructure:** Advocate for dedicated lanes or pathways for e-scooters and e-bikes that are separate from pedestrian walkways. This separation can help mitigate the risk of collisions and ensure safer pathways for all users.

**Speed Limits:** Implement and enforce strict speed limits for e-scooters and e-bikes on pathways to reduce the severity of potential accidents and enhance pedestrian safety.

**Education and Awareness Campaigns:** Launch comprehensive public education campaigns to inform users of e-scooters and e-bikes about pathway etiquette, safety guidelines, and the importance of respecting pedestrian rights-of-way.

**Enforcement:** Strengthen enforcement measures to ensure that users of e-scooters and e-bikes comply with existing regulations and prioritize pedestrian safety.

### Conclusion:

In conclusion, while e-scooters, e-bikes, and similar mobility options offer alternative transportation solutions, their use on pathways poses significant safety risks to vulnerable pedestrians, including children and elderly commuters. It is imperative for the NSW Parliament to address these concerns promptly by implementing stricter regulations and enhancing infrastructure to protect all pathway users. By taking decisive action, we can create a safer and more inclusive environment for pedestrians throughout New South Wales.

Thank you for considering these important safety issues. I trust that the NSW Parliament will prioritize the well-being of all pathway users in its decision-making process.

Sincerely,

MaCson Queiroz