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

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 13 August 2024

Partially Confidential

I live in a northern districts suburb of Sydney and the main arterial road into and out of the suburb has an adequate bicycle lane. This can also be used by e-bicycles and e-powered mobility scooters. Unfortunately, like many suburbs in Sydney, many of the side streets are either very narrow or more to the point in my suburb of North Epping, lack a footpath.

I believe that any vehicle, whether pedal powered, e-powered, petrol/diesel powered or hybrid power, which uses a public road, the operator and owner of that vehicle should contribute to the maintenance of all roads. I also believe in the theory that a financial vested interest results in greater respect, care and responsibility.

As such, I would like to recommend that ALL users should comply with the following new regulations for usage in NSW.

- 1. For all e-powered vehicles, you must be 18 years of age or over and obtain an appropriate license for the specific vehicle you operate.
- 2. ALL licensed operators must pay registration, including a CTP slip, insurance and after five (5) years from new, an appropriate pink slip certifying the vehicle's safe road worthiness.
- 3. As for under 18 pedal powered riders, an elementary license is to be obtained and renewed each year at a most nominal fee. The license would acknowledge basic riding and road rules understanding. Probably, more to the pint, this license would become a valued certificate for children, teaching them to respect safety and road rules and hopefully this would then transition to when they obtain their car, motor bike or e-vehicle when they reach 18 years of age. A most valuable and effective education tool. It even gives the child a sense of achievement, boosting self esteem and makes them feel like a young adult who is making a contribution towards the upkeep of the roads in which they, their friends and adult family ride on.
- 4. ALL vehicle licensed operators would be subject to penalties/fines if they do not wear the mandatory safety apparel, including complying helmets, or fail to address any defects on the vehicle.
- 5. For all drivers/operators 18 years and over, you need a license, insurance and registration for ALL vehicle including but not limited to, e-bicycles, mobility scooters, e-skateboards and e powered mini/toy vehicles, such as cars and motor bikes.
- 6. The current license re testing for over 80 year licensees of motor vehicles/motor bikes would apply to licensees of e-bicycles, e-scooters, mobility scooters etc.
- 7. Consider the installation of governors to reduce the max speed capabilities of the evehicles.
- 8. Prohibit the use of ALL e-vehicles on Motorways and highways. Maybe consider the construction of e-vehicle roadways which run parallel to Motorways, highways and high traffic volume, major bridges and tunnels.
- 9. ALL new regulations for e-vehicles would apply to drivers/operators who rent a vehicle. ALL oversees licensees must have an intention license which is valid/accepted in NSW.