

**Submission
No 198**

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

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This submission calls for a dialogue to begin around framing regulations for e-scooters and other forms of micro-mobility that not only support the advancement of sustainable transport but do so in a way which responds to community concerns and needs. The basis of the submission is an attached research paper documenting a recent survey of 1,522 residents of Greater Sydney soliciting their views on e-scooters and various regulatory aspects. Evidently, half of Sydneysiders support legalising e-scooters, with one-quarter opposed and one-quarter unsure. Levels of disagreement around where they should be allowed are highest for main roads and footpaths, while levels of agreement are strongest for bike paths and to a lesser extent shared paths and low-speed roads, although both attracted significant opposition, reflecting the 'contested' nature of such spaces. Strong support for helmets, insurance, licencing and registration points toward treating them more as motorcycles/mopeds than bicycles. Support is marginal for allowing them on public transport. Evidently, these heterogenous views are strongly linked to age, exposure to e-scooters, perceptions of the local environment and residential location in Greater Sydney. The growth in e-scooters, the lack of regulation permitting their use in Sydney compared to most other parts of Australia, and public sentiment about e-scooters, suggests a conversation is needed around how this might happen in a considered and safe manner.