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

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 18 August 2024

## Partially Confidential

Thank you for this wonderful opportunity to contribute to this inquiry.

It is clear that some changes are required to ensure shared e-bikes schemes offer more benefits and fewer issues.

To ensure footpaths remain clear, I would consider taking car parking spaces on each street corner, installing bike parking rings (to create virtual kerb extensions) and designate these as share bike parking areas.

In an ideal world, these would be within 2-3kms of train stations, and be accompanied by radial cycleways to increase the catchment area of existing public transit stops.

Please don't regulate e-bikes to the point where the operators pull out of Sydney. We need more viable alternatives to driving, and shared e bikes are a great contribution to society.

The best long term solution would be to select a single e-bike operator to install docking stations throughout Sydney, especially within 3km of existing train stations. AND, integrate them with the Opal network for the "last mile" to someone's destination. This means we won't have e-bikes blocking footpaths and scattered everywhere, they will be better utilised if they serve train stations, and people will truly have viable alternatives to driving - this is the only solution to Sydney's congestion.

Marginalising e-bikes and punishing people who use them with fines will only discourage people from riding bikes as a genuine form of transport (rather than a mere leisure activity), and add to the aggression that cyclists already face from drivers on a daily basis.

Please focus this enquiry on finding ways to improve current e-bike schemes and ENCOURAGE more people to ride, rather than drive everywhere.