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

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Partially Confidential

- 1. At a time when obesity is a major health issue, encouraging people not to walk is encouraging people to be unhealthy. So some users will use ebike to rush from A to B, then pay to do gym workout to compensate for the lack of walking exercise!
- 2. Encouraging people to always be in a hurry in getting from A to B is an encroachment on a more pleasing way of living. Humans do not need the constant pressure to rush.
- 3. The introduction of escooters, fat bikes, electric bikes etc in the major European city where I have been holidaying this year has had very bad effects. The "rules" are constantly broken with impunity because of the frequency of this technology's use, eg. two or three persons on one escooter; no use of helmets; dangerous speeds; abuse of/speeding on footpaths; dumping of such bikes in middle of footpaths (despite having been provided by councils with designated parking spaces); dumping of bikes in nature, eg streams, similar to the problem with shopping trolleys; encroachment of this PRIVATE technology on PUBLIC SPACES the only purpose of which is to "make a buck".
- 4. I do not know if local councils get a share of profits from the companies which provide these machines, but I suspect that is the motivation for allowing them to use public space (as has been the case with the controversial proliferation of electric billboards on pavements in Sydney, making public pavements an "obstacle course").
- 5. ebikes/escooters/fatbikes are a particular danger for pedestrians who are elderly, or young, or disabled in some way.

The list goes on.....I would argue for making escooters, ebikes, fatbikes illegal (except perhaps for very particular and necessary users/usage.