



Queensland Walking Alliance

Cr Ryan Murphy  
Chair, Public and Active Transport committee  
Brisbane City Council  
GPO Box 1434  
Brisbane Qld 4001

Dear Cr Murphy,

### **Queensland Walking Alliance response to Brisbane City Council draft e-mobility Strategy**

The Queensland Walking Alliance (QWA) is a coalition of partner organisations and individuals who commit to a healthier and more connected Queensland by encouraging and supporting better walking facilities and more walking every day.

The QWA welcomes the initiative shown by the Brisbane City Council in preparing a draft e-mobility strategy in recognition of the significant growth in e-mobility devices. E-mobility provides a useful active travel option which can complement public and active travel modes. However, the QWA considers that more investigation into walkability and pedestrian safety is urgently needed in light of this growth.

### **The need for 'Walkable Brisbane: a Walking Strategy', action plan and walkability review**

The QWA encourages Brisbane City Council to commit to a specific walking strategy that complements the Transport Plan for Brisbane, Move Safe Brisbane and Inclusive Brisbane Plan. A walking strategy should encompass a walkability review in reference to the current pedestrian network, and will anticipate the expansion of both private and public e-mobility travel into suburban areas. A walkability review should consider: width of footpaths, kerb ramps, neighbourhood street speed reductions, safer road crossings, and review the increasing risk of conflict and injury.

### **Pedestrian safety concerns and providing safety for vulnerable people**

Walking is an activity undertaken by people of all ages and abilities and is an equitable and environmentally-sound travel mode. Inclusion is an important detail that should be developed in the strategy, and coalition members are concerned about the increasing risk of injury and near-misses to people who walk, and especially more vulnerable walkers. We know that there is a significant amount of stress and anxiety in the blind and low-vision community, and with members who use a wheelchair or frame, people with impaired mobility (for example those living with Parkinson's Disease or Multiple Sclerosis), parents with children, and older community members. This concern stems from the increased use of footpaths, and the storage of e-mobility devices on footpaths and shared spaces. These concerns should be investigated and addressed in the e-mobility strategy.

### **Need for more consultation, more research, and road safety education**

QWA would recommend further consultation in drafting this strategy. We consider there is a need for a more comprehensive community consultation on this strategy, involving relevant organisations, the community, the Queensland Police Services (QPS), and the Queensland Government. This consultation should also include a further review of pedestrian safety on Brisbane City Council's footpaths and shared path networks. We draw your attention to research conducted by the [Centre for Accident Research and Road Safety – Queensland \(CARRS-Q\)](#) that highlights issues and provides suggested ways for better pedestrian safety.



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## **Summary of Queensland Walking Alliance Recommendations**

- QWA recommends that Brisbane City Council **develop a Walking Strategy and Action Plan** in conjunction with the e-mobility Strategy to deliver a citywide transport network which includes walking at its centre.
- QWA would like to see an up to date **investigation into pedestrian safety** based on research by CARRS-Q, which raises significant concerns about the interaction between pedestrians and e-mobility users.
- QWA urges Brisbane City Council to provide **more space for walking, e-mobility devices, and people riding bikes, especially in areas with high footfall, and provide segregated space for faster moving vehicles like e-mobility devices and bikes.**

Thank you for taking the time to review our considered responses. We look forward to working with you on our preferred approach to a more walkable Brisbane.

Yours in health and walking,

*Anna Campbell*

Anna Campbell, on behalf of the [Queensland Walking Alliance](https://www.queenslandwalks.org.au)



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[www.queenslandwalks.org.au](https://www.queenslandwalks.org.au)

**The Queensland Walking Alliance is hosted by Queensland Walks and represented by local, state and national organisations, business and individual community members. The purpose of the Queensland Walking Alliance (QWA):**

- To bring together a number of the important stakeholders that relate and interact with walking in Queensland
- The aim of the QWA is to get more people walking everyday by providing a central voice for walking (urban, regional and rural) with a focused approach to improving the walkability of Queensland
- The responsibility of the QWA is to commit to a healthier and more connected Queensland by encouraging and supporting better walking facilities and more walking every day. [Read more about the alliance and partners here.](#)



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**The Queensland Walking Alliance includes:**

[7 Senses](#)

[10,000 Steps](#)

[Australian Institute of Landscape Architects, Qld Chapter \(AILAQ\)](#)

[The Ageing Revolution](#)

[Bicycle Queensland](#)

[Bushwalking Queensland](#)

[Cancer Council Queensland](#)

[Centre for Accident Research and Road Safety – Queensland \(CARRS- Q\)](#)

[Guide Dogs Queensland](#)

[Inclusion Moves](#)

[National Heart Foundation \(including the Heart Foundation Walking program, Healthy Active by Design\)](#)

[Nature Play QLD](#)

[Outdoors Queensland \(Queensland Outdoor Recreation Federation\)](#)

[PedBikeTrans \(PBT\)](#)

[Rail Back on Track \(RBoT\)](#)

[Shady Lanes Project](#)

[Vision Australia](#)

[Your Happy Place, Personality and Place](#)

[Zwart Transport Planning](#)

[Queensland Walks Incorporated](#)