



Motorcyclists Top 3 Issues

The Queensland Motorcycle Council Inc. was formed to be the representative body for all motorcyclists and other powered two-wheel (PTW) vehicle riders in Queensland noting there are over 750,000 motorcycle license holders in Queensland.

We have conducted a survey of our members and across social media to identify the top three issues for motorcyclists in Queensland.

While most responses fall into the following broad categories, there is a need to break down the responses and attempt to provide ways to address these issues.

1. Powered Two Wheelers (PTW) are an important and integral part of Transport planning.
 - PTWs provide the opportunity for significant reductions in emissions, congestion, parking, and damage to road infrastructure.
 - Gold Coast, Logan and Ipswich City Councils made no mention of PTWs in their Transport Strategies. Unless PTWs are recognized and incorporated into Transport Strategies, those Transport Strategies lack credibility and reflect poorly on those organisations that seek to rely on them.
 - Currently, there is little support for PTWs even among organisations that recognize them as a valid mode of transport. There is little understanding of the benefits of PTWs in the transport mix despite the introduction of Queensland lane filtering legislation in 2015 and overseas studies that higher use of PTWs can significantly reduce traffic congestion on busy urban streets and roads.
 - Changes could be free parking including free footpath parking wherever appropriate.
 - Roll out of bicycle and PTW storage boxes at controlled intersections together with red light cameras to improve lane filtering and safety for bicycles and PTWs.
 - Scrap tolls on all tunnels and tollways for PTWs to incentivize usage and improve safety for PTW riders.
 - Reduce registration and CTP costs for PTWs, especially single seat registered PTWs which are used in the gig economy.
 - Introduce enhanced historic and recreational registrations for PTWs, this would make registering PTWs in these categories more affordable and more registered PTWs would generate greater stamp duty and increased economic activity through buying and selling, maintenance and restoration. The historic vehicle restoration industry is a multi-billion dollar industry and boost to regional communities and a simple change to reflect other states registration position can be a major economic boost.
 - Electric vehicle subsidies could be extended to electric PTWs to encourage their take up. They are cheaper to purchase, are congestion neutral in heavy traffic, take less room for parking.
 - The article titled “The world's 280 million electric bikes and mopeds are cutting demand for oil far more than electric cars” by Dr Muhammad Azhar who is a Lecturer in the School of Engineering at Edith Cowan University gives a more detailed account of the global worth of PTWs.



2. Improved, continuous road user education.
 - A significant number of riders thought more education of all road users is a very worthwhile objective as there is a need to change the current culture of self-entitlement and lack of care for other road users through a mixture of education and training.
3. Road conditions and maintenance of roads.
 - Road conditions and maintenance were the big issue with our respondents. Motorcycle friendly roads are much safer for riders and all road users. Poor road conditions and poor maintenance are extremely hazardous for riders.
4. High cost of registration and CTP insurance of PTWs.
 - Ownership of multiple, privately registered PTWs could be encouraged rather than discouraged through lower registration and CTP costs for vehicles not in use. Currently these owners are being gouged for full registration and CTP costs despite only one vehicle being able to be used at a time.
 - Expanding the classes of vehicle registrations to include a category for historic vehicle similar to that used in other States and Territories.
 - Last year's massive 67% MAIC fee increase for single seat motorcycles is a major factor in reducing the attractiveness of motorcycles for commuting and deliveries. So, if we want to realise the benefits of motorcycling then this has to be addressed. Senior LNP politicians were concerned when MAIC changed its insurance provider during Campbell Newman's time, and they were right to be concerned as the change has proven to be expensive and unsustainable.
5. Over policing and negative attitude of police to PTWs.
6. Speed limits were seen more to collect revenue than for safety.