

# Cycling and walking strategy – have your say

**By Zero Emissions Noosa**

If you have ever thought that you would do more cycling and walking if only you had better pathways in your area, or maybe if only that key missing link was completed, now is the time to have your say.

Noosa Council has its draft Cycling and Walking Strategy out for public comment, and your local knowledge is critical if they are to get it right. The Strategy includes a Project Prioritisation list of nearly 400 walking and cycling projects from the hinterland to the coast, with a priority for each project. Although consultation closes today, we are sure that your comments will be considered if you get them to your councillors quickly.

Transport emissions represent 33 per cent of Noosa's total emissions, so Zero Emissions Noosa believes swapping some car trips for cycling, walking, skateboarding or even scooting can help us get to our zero emissions by 2026 goal.

The recent Noosa EV Expo demonstrated the huge interest of the community in all these modes, particularly with electric assist. Along with the uptake of electric bikes, there is a quiet revolution happening with electric scooters, which are light, affordable and foldable and have a range suitable for many trips. Several of Noosa's great bike retailers participated in the Expo, including Giant Noosa, Le Cyclo Sportif and Ecotekk and many Expo visitors took the opportunity to test ride e-bikes and e-scooters.

However, Noosa will lag behind other communities if it does not give priority to funding better pathway linkages to schools, shopping centres, and sporting grounds. Council's Climate Change Response Plan, now also out for public comment, identifies the goal to "accelerate active transport infrastructure investment" and it is important that Council gets the message that this is important to you, your family and your community.



Darren Walters from Ecotekk at the EV Expo.

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