in partnership with

aspa Australasian Society for Physical Activity

We Ride! AUSTRALIA

THREE TRANSPORT PRIORITIES

2022 Australian Federal Election

1. LOWER DEFAULT SPEED LIMITS
2. 1500M SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL
3. E-BIKE PURCHASE SUBSIDY

Why? Because "business as usual" transport costs Australia **$57 billion/yr***

* Due to road traffic crashes[1], congestion[2] & physical inactivity[3]

Three Transport Priorities. Prepared for the 2022 Australian Federal Election. Australasian Society for Physical Activity, in partnership with WeRide Australia and an alliance of public health, transport and climate organisations. February 2022. Available from: aspactivity.org/three-transport-priorities

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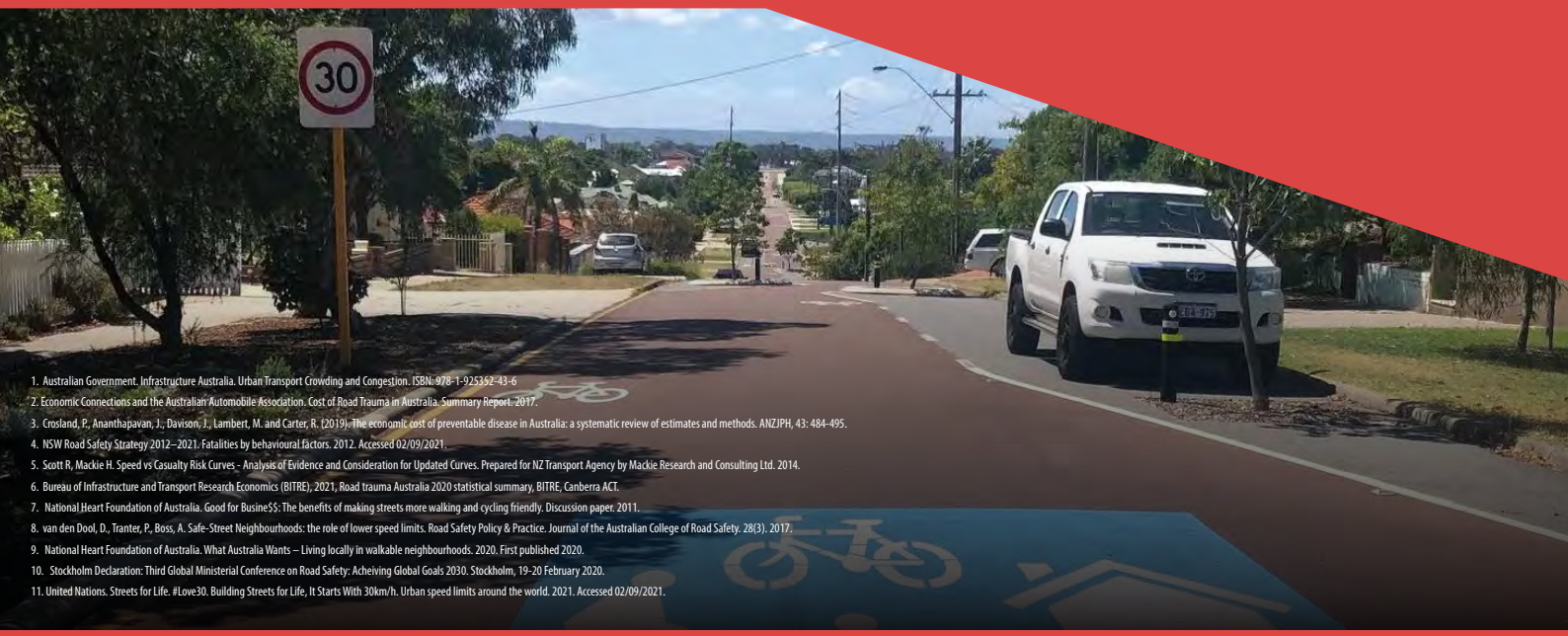
WHAT?

Federal government uses its funding to support states and territories to adopt **lower default urban speed limits in residential areas, shopping streets and school zones** (on non-arterial local roads), accompanied by enforcement and public education.

1 LOWER DEFAULT SPEED LIMITS

WHY?

- Speed is the **number one cause** of motor vehicle crashes.[4,5]
- Each year there are more than **39,000 serious injuries[6] and 1,100 deaths** on Australian roads and paths.[6]
- **Local businesses benefit** from low-speed walking friendly streets.[7]
- In Australia, **13% of crashes could be avoided** by reducing speed limits to 30km/h on non-arterial urban streets, resulting in a national **economic benefit of $3.5 billion/yr**[8]
- Two-thirds (64%) of **Australians support lowering speed limits** in residential areas.[9]
- Reducing speed limits to 30km/h is **globally recognised** as key to saving lives.[10]
- A growing number of global **case studies show the benefits** of reducing default urban speed limits to 30km/h, cost-effectively reducing crashes, and, supporting people to walk and for ride short journeys.[10]
- Lower speed environments support walking and cycling, reduce traffic congestion, crashes, air and noise pollution, and support physical activity.[11]



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WHAT?

Federal government uses its funding to support states and territories to **implement safe routes and pedestrian priority crossings within 500-1500 metres of all schools** with designated 'no drop off' zones adjacent to, or within, school grounds to enhance safety for all students.*

2 1500M SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

WHY?

- Four decades ago, **3 out of 4** Australian children walked or rode to school. Today, just **1 out of 4** walk or ride.[1]
- More than **two-thirds (71%) of Australian kids live within 5km of their school** and 57% live within 3km or less.[1]
- Giving 3.7 million school-aged kids in Australia an active start to life can support them to remain active as adults[2] and to develop independent mobility skills.[3]
- Research suggests **1500-2000m is the ideal distance** to walk or cycle to school.[3]
- **For the cost of the 9km Sydney NorthConnex** tunnel ($3 billion), Australia could build an **additional signalised pedestrian crossing within 1500m of every school in the country.**[4,5]
- Half of Australian **parents have safety concerns** about letting their child walk or ride to school.[1]
- School pick-up is the **most dangerous time of the day** on Australian roads.[6]
- A road traffic crash is the **number one cause of death** for Australian children.[7]

*Designated school drop-off zones adjacent to or within schools should be made accessible for people living with a disability and is included as part of this priority.

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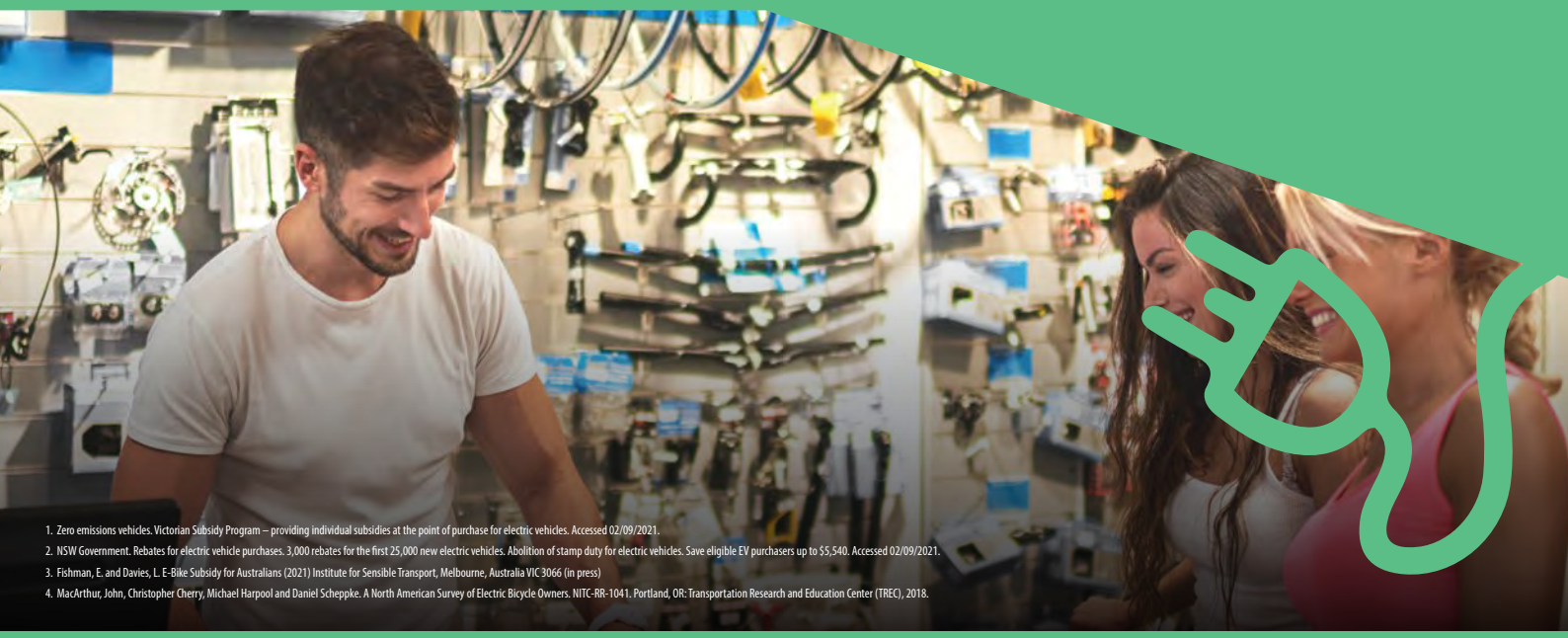
WHAT?

Federal government funds a **25% subsidy (up to $1000) for the purchase of an e-bike**, applied at the point of retail purchase.

3 E-BIKE PURCHASE SUBSIDY

WHY?

- Current Australian subsidies on e-vehicles exclude e-bikes.[1,2]
- **Latest modelling shows a return on investment of $2.61 and $3.11** respectively for each dollar invested in $1000 and $500 subsidies.[3]
- Upfront **purchase price is one of the main barriers** to the uptake of e-bikes.[4]
- E-bikes help reduce **congestion, parking frustration, road traffic crashes and physical inactivity.**
- E-bikes can **support Australia's transition** from fossil fuel dependent cars **to an e-fleet.**
- Purchasing subsidised e-bikes is accessible and **affordable for those with lower incomes.**



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Amy Gillett FOUNDATION Safe together

ACHPER Australian Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation

ACRS AUSTRALASIAN COLLEGE OF ROAD SAFETY

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