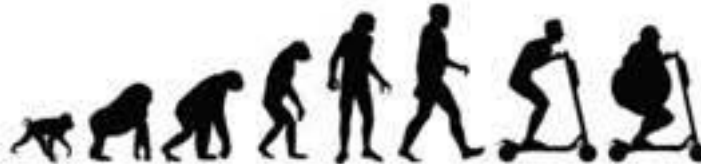




Friday 6 September

MEDIA RELEASE

PEDESTRIAN COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA CONGRATULATES MELBOURNE CITY COUNCIL FOR BANNING e-SCOOTERS AND CALLS ON OTHER COUNCILS TO FOLLOW SUIT AS WE LEAD INTO **NATIONAL WALK TO WORK DAY ON FRIDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER**



*It took humans a million years to learn how to walk...
and five minutes to forget.*

29 August 2024: In the lead up to Walk to Work Day, CEO of the Pedestrian Council of Australia (PCA), Harold Scruby, has congratulated the City of Melbourne for banning e-Scooters within the city and keeping their pedestrians safe and hopes other councils follow suit around the country.

Scruby said that he has been lobbying against the use of e-Scooters for years.

"e-Scooters are the very antithesis of active transport. They reduce active transport such as walking or cycling to work, or to public transport locations, leading to a decline in the health of Australians.

Despite what these companies claim, e-Scooters and many other types of e-Rideables, such as Segways, e-Skateboards, hoverboards and e-Monocycles, are anything but active transport, as the body is not moving enough to make even the slightest impact on health.

They are also making the walking environment far less safe. Evidence shows that e-Scooter riders deter people from walking, by intimidating, coercing or obstructing them on footpaths, shared paths, pedestrian crossings and parks - especially older people, people with limited mobility and the vision and hearing impaired.

We hope all councils follow Melbourne's great example and ban e-Scooters and e-Rideables generally from all public places where they can affect pedestrian safety and walkability," he said.

The ban, announced two weeks ago, comes at the perfect time as National Walk to Work Day is on Friday 6 September 2024. It encourages employees and employers to build regular walking into their daily routines.

Walk to Work Day promotes better physical, mental and social health for all Australians. It reduces the reliance on private motor vehicles, promotes the use of public transport to ease traffic congestion, and improves the environment by cutting down on unnecessary vehicle emissions," said Scruby.

Instead of using an e-Scooter, Melbournians are encouraged to step into spring, and walk to work not just on Friday 6 September, but every day.

For more information, please visit walk.com.au

ENDS.