

Plan to Ride Safely:

- ✓ Travel at a speed that will enable you to stop quickly.
- ✓ Wherever possible travel on the left side of the footpath or on the section marked for pedestrians rather than cyclists.
- ✓ Give way to pedestrians.
- ✓ Look for vehicles entering or exiting driveways.
- ✓ Do not suddenly change direction. Check what is going on around and behind you first.
- ✓ Make turns slowly – the faster you take the turn the more danger you have of tipping over.
- ✓ Do not travel alongside another wheelchair or scooter on the footpath or road - single file is the courteous and safe way to go.
- ✓ When crossing the road, look for traffic in both directions. By law, if there is a pedestrian crossing within 20 metres from where you want to cross you must use it.
- ✓ Be careful around parked cars, drivers may not be able to see you, especially when they are reversing.
- ✓ Don't assume cars will stop for you... especially at intersections or crossings that are not controlled by traffic lights

- ✓ It is recommended to stay off lawns (*especially long grass*), soil and sand.
- ✓ If you want to use your mobile phone, always stop and turn off your wheelchair/scooter first.
- ✓ Never allow a power wheelchair or electric scooter to get wet, and steer clear of puddles.
- ✓ Always turn the power off and remove keys before dismounting.

Contacts:

For information about accessing Public Transport, call 08 8924 7666 during business hours 6.45am-4.30pm Mon-Fri, and 9am-1pm Sat.

City of Palmerston

8935 9922 | www.palmerston.nt.gov.au



★ ★ ★

Mobility Scooters & Electric Wheelchairs



SAFE TRAVEL GUIDELINES

Motorised mobility devices are used by people who are unable to walk or have difficulty walking. It is best to consult a health professional to check if a device suits your needs.

You do not require registration or a drivers licence. You are classified as 'pedestrians', therefore, when out and about you must follow the laws that would prevail if you were a walking pedestrian.

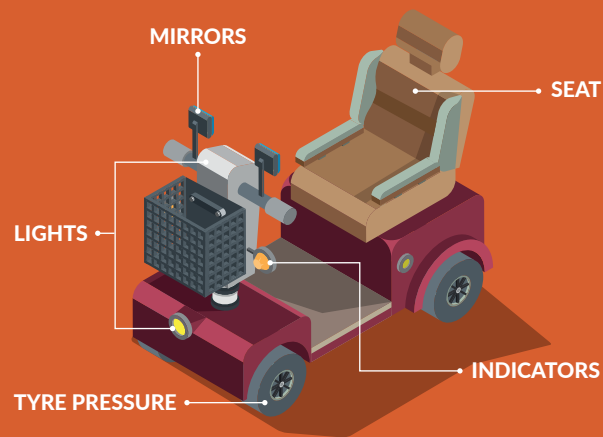
Motorised mobility devices may, by law, only travel up to a maximum speed of 10km per hour.

Before starting your journey:

You should read your owner's manual to be familiar with your machine's specific features, i.e. seating adjustments, free wheel mode, recharging battery, tyre pressure, maximum gradient your machine can climb, hazards of electromagnetic interference etc.

Check... Yourself:

- ✓ Wear bright clothes or a high visibility vest so others can see you.
- ✓ Be prepared for the weather i.e. carry suntan lotion, a hat, a raincoat, etc.
- ✓ Have you got your mobile phone, is it fully charged? (*Remember to always stop and turn off your wheelchair or scooter when using your mobile phone.*)
- ✓ "Will any medication I have taken interfere with my driving ability"?



Check... Your Wheelchair/Scooter:

- ✓ Make sure batteries are fully charged and be aware of the time a fully charged battery will last.
- ✓ Make sure all lights/indicators are working – consider installing front and rear lights if your scooter or wheelchair is not equipped with them. Bicycle lights are ideal, as are reflectors or fluorescent reflective tape.
- ✓ Attaching a reflective flag will also help people see you.
- ✓ If you don't have rear vision mirrors, consider installing them – this is especially important if you have a limited range of movement in your neck.
- ✓ Check your tyre pressure – under-inflated tyres can affect your stability.
- ✓ Make sure the seat is at the right level and locked in place before moving.

Plan a safe route:

- ✓ Plan a route that allows access to footpaths for the entire journey. Know where the kerb ramps or driveways are that you can use.
- ✓ If there are no proper paths and you need to travel on the road, try to use quieter roads and stay as close to the kerb as possible. Travel against oncoming traffic and endeavour to establish eye contact with drivers.
- ✓ Avoid travelling when there is poor light. Even if you only ride in the daylight use lights and reflectors so you can be seen in all situations.
- ✓ If there are surface hazards like loose stones, tree roots, raised slabs, or overhanging branches, etc, let your Council know.

