

Communication from Public

Name:

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Council File No: 17-1125

Comments for Public Posting: To the Los Angeles City Council- I am a resident of the City of Los Angeles. On Saturday morning, February 1st, I was picking up litter along the sidewalk beside our apartment complex with my 4 year old daughter. We live near the corner of 6th and Cochran in the Mid-Wilshire La Brea neighborhood. As we were bent over picking up rubbish, a man on an electric scooter whizzed by at full speed narrowly missing my daughter and brushing against my back. Without slowing, he continued on his way and brushed a woman walking along the sidewalk in the same direction as he was traveling. She could not see him coming. Nobody could hear him coming to get out of the way because these machines are too fast (reaching 15 mph) and too quiet to be heard from any significant distance. A man driving by witnessed the event and asked if we were okay. Fortunately, I was able to inform him that nobody was injured. This is not the first time my family and I have felt threatened by people illegally riding e-scooters on public sidewalks. It happens on a weekly basis. And I'm not talking about the riders who go into the street when they see us walking along the sidewalk or stop to let us pass. I'm talking about riders who brazenly ride by at full or near full speed on the sidewalk right past us. I understand there is a pilot program underway but what needs to happen for YOU to wake up and realize that the benefits of these micro transportation devices do not outweigh the DANGERS? I urge you to TAKE THEM OFF THE STREETS IMMEDIATELY so that pedestrians can feel safe on the sidewalks again. It is clear that e-scooter companies will not enforce rider compliance and I have yet to see any evidence of the LAPD enforcing compliance with the law. So if not them, the city council is our only hope. I know this is an important issue for many others besides myself and with elections coming up I will be closely monitoring your action on this matter and encouraging others to do the same. Sincerely, concerned pedestrian