August 15, 2018

VIA E-MAIL
John White
Legislative Assistant
Los Angeles City Council, Transportation Committee
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Re: Dockless Electric Scooters – File No. 17-1125

To The Honorable Transportation Committee of the City Council of Los Angeles:

I write this letter in support of the Committee’s ongoing consideration of reasonable, commonsense rules and guidelines to govern the use of electric scooters and other similar forms of mobility.

As a concerned citizen and life-long Angelino, I am thrilled to see that our City is becoming a hotbed of innovation in the transportation arena. Electric scooters, and the companies developing them here, can have tremendous benefits for our residents. These benefits may include easing traffic, reducing pollution, creating jobs, providing valuable data, and nurturing a budding tech-driven mobility industry vital to our City’s (and world’s) future.

But I’m also mindful that the proliferation of these electric scooters without meaningful regulation could be a step in the wrong direction. Electric scooters have to be safe and should not be an eyesore on our streets. To address these and other concerns, the Department of Transportation (“DOT”) has drafted the Dockless On-Demand Personal Mobility Rules & Guidelines (the “Guidelines”).

I believe that these Guidelines are a good start. The Guidelines recognize that we can all benefit from this explosion of new mobility products, including dockless electric scooters. At the same time, the Guidelines are an acknowledgement that regulation is necessary to ensure that these new products are deployed in a safe and sustainable manner that are consistent with our City’s core values and priorities.

That is why I strongly urge the Committee to consider, debate, and adopt rules that will encourage and regulate the use of dockless electric scooters. And I hope to see a final version of the Guidelines voted on and eventually passed by the full City Council. Thank you.

Sincerely,

John