September 16, 2018

The Honorable City Council
c/o City Clerk, Room 395, City Hall
Attention: Honorable Mike Bonin, Chair, Transportation Committee
VIA E-MAIL: John.White@lacity.org, Legislative Assistant

SUBJECT: DOCKLESS ELECTRIC SCOOTERS – COUNCIL FILE NO. 17-1125

To the Transportation Committee of the Los Angeles City Council (the “Committee”):

The Board of Transportation Commissioners for the City of Los Angeles (the “Commission”) commends the City Council’s unanimous approval of the Department of Transportation’s ("DOT") Dockless On-Demand Personal Mobility Rules & Guidelines (the “Guidelines”) on September 4, 2018. The Commission further commends the work of the Committee in adopting reasonable, commonsense rules to govern the use of electric scooters and other similar forms of mobility.

The Commission is dedicated to seeing that our City becomes a hotbed of innovation in the transportation arena. Electric scooters and the companies developing them here can help ease traffic, reduce pollution, create jobs, provide valuable data, and nurture a budding tech-driven mobility industry vital to our City’s (and world’s) future.

At the same time, the Commission is mindful that the proliferation of dockless electric scooters and bikes without meaningful regulation would be a step in the wrong direction. These vehicles have to be safe and should not be an eyesore on our streets. The fair and equitable deployment of these vehicles in lower income communities must be prioritized and required.

These Guidelines are a very good start. They recognize that we can all benefit from these new vehicles, while acknowledging that regulation is needed to ensure that these vehicles are deployed in a safe and sustainable manner consistent with our City’s core values and priorities. That is why the Commission will request that DOT provide updates on the use of these vehicles in the months ahead. Based on these updates, the Commission may submit recommendations for the Committee relating to the Guidelines. Please contact us if you have any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,
The Board of Transportation Commissioners for the City of Los Angeles

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