



Happy February, micromobility stakeholders!

The Baltimore City Department of Transportation (BCDOT) dockless and micromobility committee meets quarterly; during off-months, you can expect an email update in lieu of a meeting. Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday April 12, 2023 from 10:00-11:30am. Minutes from the recent January meeting are available online [here](#).

Below is your monthly round-up of [announcements](#), [data](#) updates, and a look [ahead](#). If you have a data request for future updates, please respond directly to this email. If you would like to be removed from this list, please respond directly, and you will no longer receive these emails.

Announcements

Spin launches e-bikes in Baltimore:

Spin launched e-bikes in Baltimore on January 16, 2023. The vehicles have an electric assist that helps riders up Baltimore's hills. Spin is our second operator to add e-bikes to their fleet. The e-bikes offer another option to get around the city and contribute to the program's goal of expanding sustainable mobility options.

There are already 75 Spin e-bikes deployed in Baltimore and we hope to increase the number of Bird and Spin e-bikes deployed as the weather improves into the spring and summer. Look for the e-bikes on the streets and in the Spin app! You can filter vehicle types in the Spin app or use the vehicle icons to locate the e-bikes.



Spin S-300 electric bike, picture courtesy of Spin.

2023 User Survey: Our annual user survey will be live in the Bird, Spin, and Superpedestrian apps this week. The survey results are used to inform the direction of the program and will be used to update the rules and regulations this spring. If you are a dockless vehicle ride in Baltimore and would like to take the 2023 user survey, you can take the survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/baltimore2023usersurvey>.

E-scooters in the news: Magnet fishing has gained traction in Baltimore after it was featured on the local news and in The Baltimore Sun last week (February 2, 2023). Magnet fishing activities have pulled up many scooters, amongst other things, from the harbor. As a reminder, the fastest way to have a scooter moved, even one that has spent some time in the harbor, is to contact the companies directly. Vehicles can be reported through the app or using the customer service numbers and emails listed on the vehicles or shown below.

- **Bird** - 1 (866)-205-2442, by [email](#) or [online](#)
- **LINK by Superpedestrian** - 1-844-701-8163, or email [LINK City](#) or visit us online at [LINK City](#)
- **Spin** - 1(888)249-9698, or email [Spin](#) or visit us online at [Spin](#)

To help prevent scooters from being knocked into the water, Baltimore has a no parking zone around the harbor (shown in red in Figure 1) Riders are not able to end their trips in the no parking zone and must move outside of the zone to park their vehicle. Figure 1 shows several parking corrals located for scooters outside of the waterfront no parking zone.

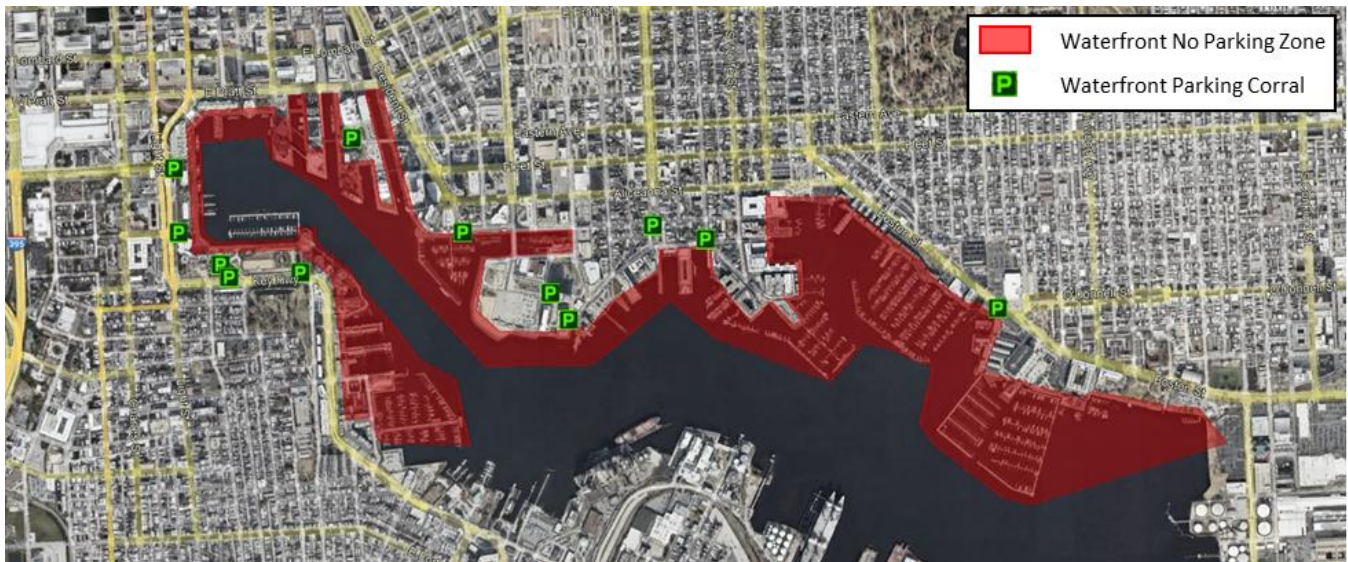


Figure 1. No parking zone for scooters around the Baltimore harbor

Older News

Baltimore featured as a national model: The Baltimore City Dockless Vehicle Program was featured as a case study in the National Association of City Transportation Officials (NACTO) report on micromobility stats and the working paper titled “Shared Micromobility Permitting, Process, and Participation.” Read the [press release here!](#)

Spin launches new scooter model: Spin has partnered with Drover AI to incorporate their PathPilot technology into their new generation of scooters. The PathPilot technology equips Spin’s vehicles with a camera, additional sensors, and on-board computing power to detect sidewalk and bike lane riding and validate parking. The technology even provides real-time sidewalk detection, triggering audible warnings for the rider and pedestrians.

Bird launches new vehicles: Bird launched their Whill, an electric wheelchair for on-demand rentals delivered within Baltimore City limits. The Whill can be booked through the app at \$15/day.

Policy Work: BCDOT launched a preferred parking pilot where corrals are paired with no-parking zones in adjacent areas with access and ADA concerns. Our analysis was presented at the January meeting and the pilot will continue into the spring to monitor the efficacy with higher ridership.

Data Updates

Weekly Trips Comparison

Charted in Figure 2 are weekly trip counts from dockless e-scooters and e-bikes from 2019 to the present. Notable in 2022 (purple) is a steep decline in July to the present. This is attributed to a change in permit holders and the reduction in vehicles available from about 3000 down to 2000 vehicles available daily. Ridership is beginning to rebound as riders switch accounts to Bird, LINK, and Spin. Bird has increased their number of vehicles available, and Spin has reset all vehicles from a temporary outage which affected vehicles nationwide. In 2023, there has been an average of 3,000 vehicles available daily.

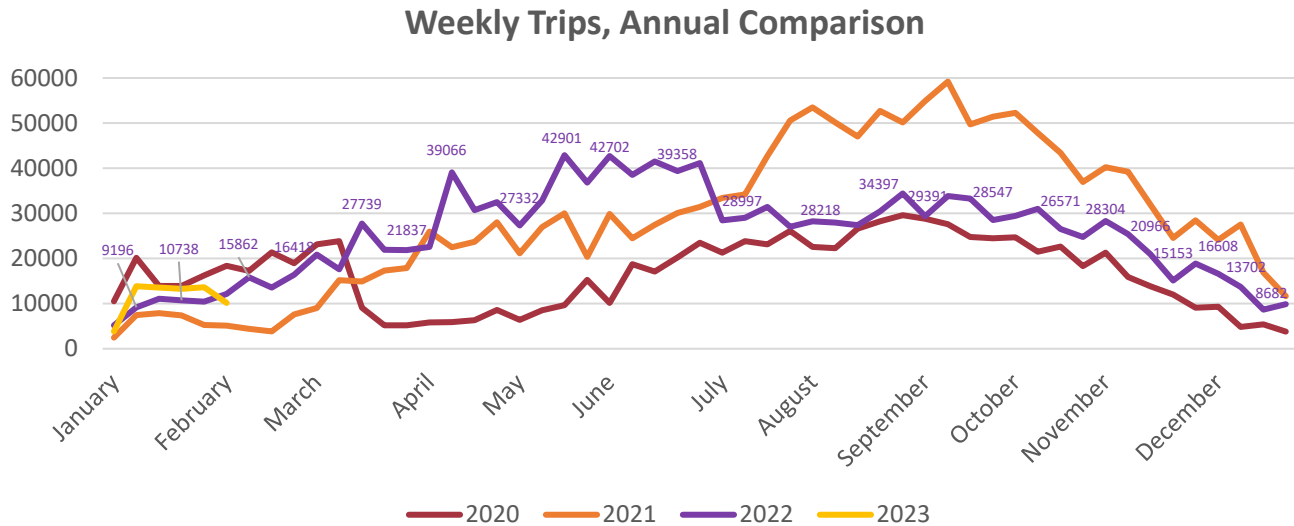


Figure 2. Weekly trip counts from 2020-2023

2022 Program Year in Review

Baltimore was asked to participate in the 2022 NACTO Shared Micromobility in the U.S. and Canada Survey! The survey highlights annual trends in micromobility including trips, operations, pricing, and equity programs. Here are some highlights from Baltimore's Dockless Vehicle Program in 2022:

1,341,512 shared e-scooter and e-bike trips in 2022

2,560 e-scooters and 121 e-bikes available daily

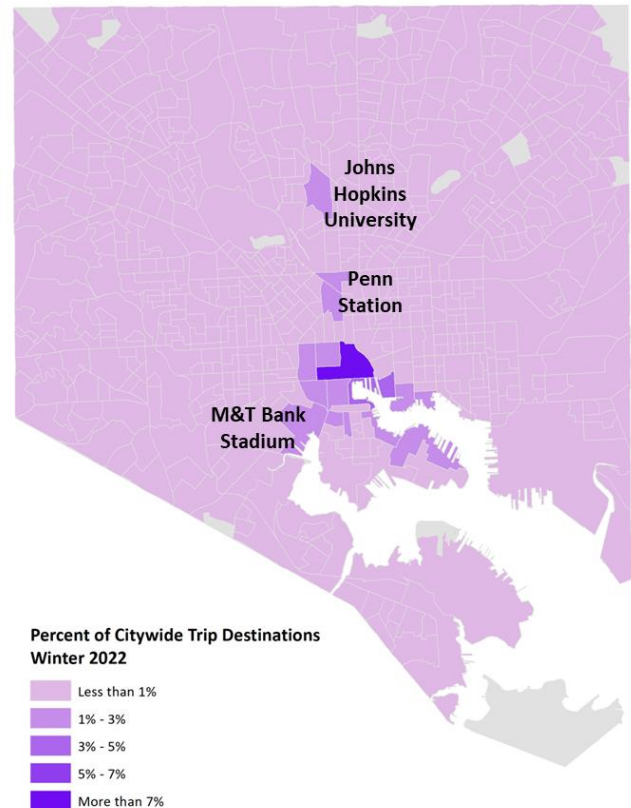
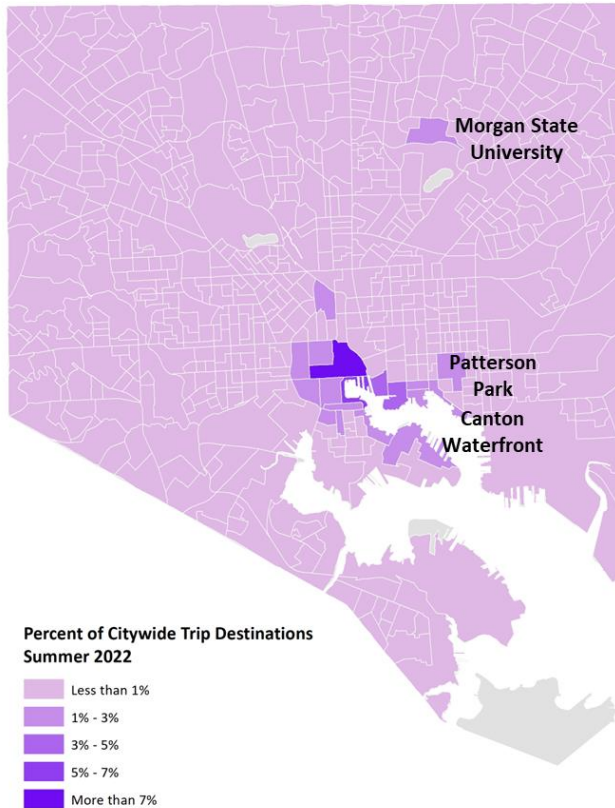
1.31 trips/vehicle/day
Every scooter was used for at least one trip every day!



Where are e-scooter and e-bike riders going when its cold outside?

Riders' destinations change as the weather changes. Overall, we see a decrease in e-scooter and e-bike trips when its cold outside. However, there are still many scooter riders willing to brave the cold! Popular trip destinations in the winter vary slightly from popular trip destinations in the summer. The maps show the percent of citywide trips by census block group.

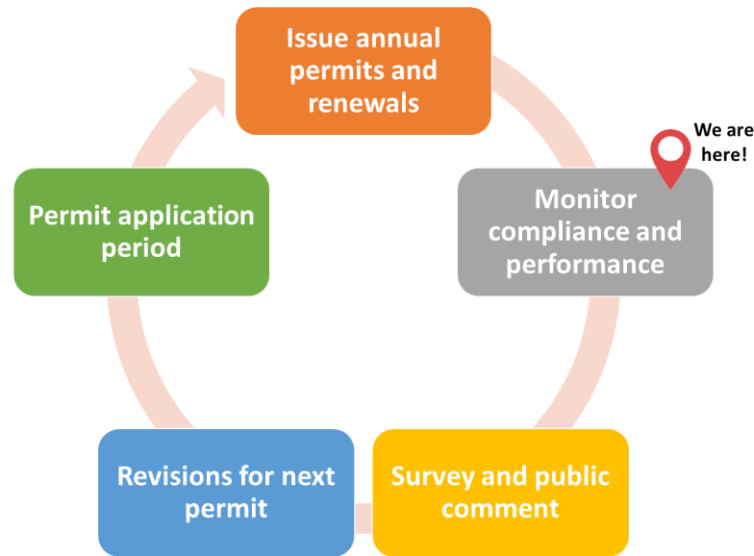
In both the summer (left) and winter (right), downtown, the Inner Harbor, and Fells Point remain the most popular trip destinations. Last summer (June-August 2022), Patterson Park, Morgan State University, and the Canton Waterfront experienced higher percentages of dockless vehicle trips. However, in the winter (December 2022-February 2023), there was a shift in trips to Johns Hopkins University, Penn Station, and the Raven's stadium.



Looking Ahead

Upcoming Program & Policy Dates

- April 12, 2023 – Quarterly Meeting: Dockless and Micromobility Committee – Rules and Regulation public comment period and survey results
 - Meeting Agenda
 - Updates from Bird, Spin, and Superpedestrian
 - Compliance updates
 - No parking zones around corrals evaluation
 - Johns Hopkins University equity zones survey updates
 - User survey results preview
 - Public comment on rules & regulations updates 2023-2024
- July 2023 - Anticipating 2-3 permits and permit fees reinvested into a coalition of community supporters.



Upcoming Events

- 2/21 – 2/25 - Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association Tournament
 - Higher ridership expected!
- 2/24 – Bike Party – February Ride!
- Find other biking and scooting events, including weekly rides here: <https://www.bikemore.net/calendar>

Please email dot-community@baltimorecity.gov with any requests, including:

- Data requests – Request trip data for a specific place or time
- Events support requests – Request vehicles be deployed, an area is swept after an event, or for temporary parking zones
- Educational event request – If you're hosting an event, you can request a company attends with information about learning to ride and signing up for different plan.