



Hello 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.

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## Announcements

**2023 User Survey:** Our annual user survey is 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, you can take the survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/baltimore2023usersurvey>.

**Permit Rules & Regulations undergoing annual revision:** The full draft of revisions is expected to be released by March 15 for public comment. You can also respond to this email if there are other issues or changes you would recommend. Recommended changes will be discussed at our April meeting. Meeting invitation will be sent out later this week.

## Older News

**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.

**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. Magnet fishing activities have pulled up lots of 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.

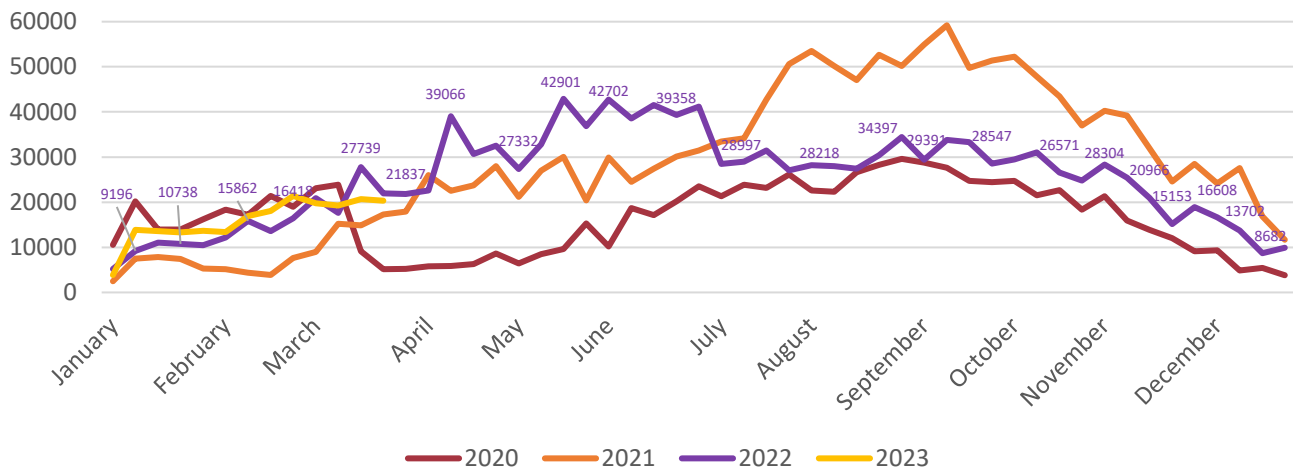
**Policy Work:** BCDOT launched a preferred parking pilot where corrals are paired with no-parking zones in adjacent areas where there are access and ADA concerns. Efficacy analysis was presented at the January meeting and the pilot will continue into the spring to monitor the efficacy with higher ridership.

## Data Updates

### Weekly Trips Comparison

Charted below 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 3,000 down to 2,000 vehicles available daily. Ridership is beginning to rebound as riders switch accounts to Bird, LINK, and Spin. Bird and Spin have increased their number of vehicles available and added e-bikes to their fleets. In 2023, there has been an average of almost 4,000 vehicles available daily. Trips take the last week of February and the first week of March exceeded ridership during those same weeks in 2020 before the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic.

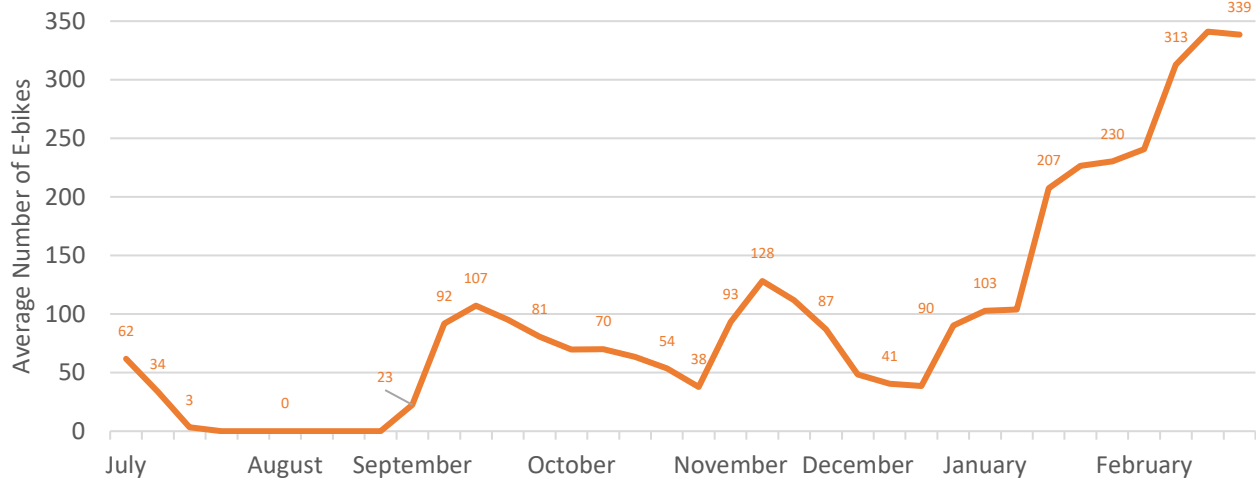
Weekly Trips, Annual Comparison



### E-bikes in Baltimore

Both Bird and Spin have started deploying e-bikes in Baltimore. Since late February, Baltimore has had over 300 e-bikes available for rent. Having at least 300 e-bikes has been a long-time goal of the program. BCDOT has approximated that 300 is the number of bikes Baltimore needs to increase recognition of shared bikes and spark e-bike ridership. Comparison of routing for e-bikes and e-scooters will be presented at our next meeting.

## Deployed E-bikes

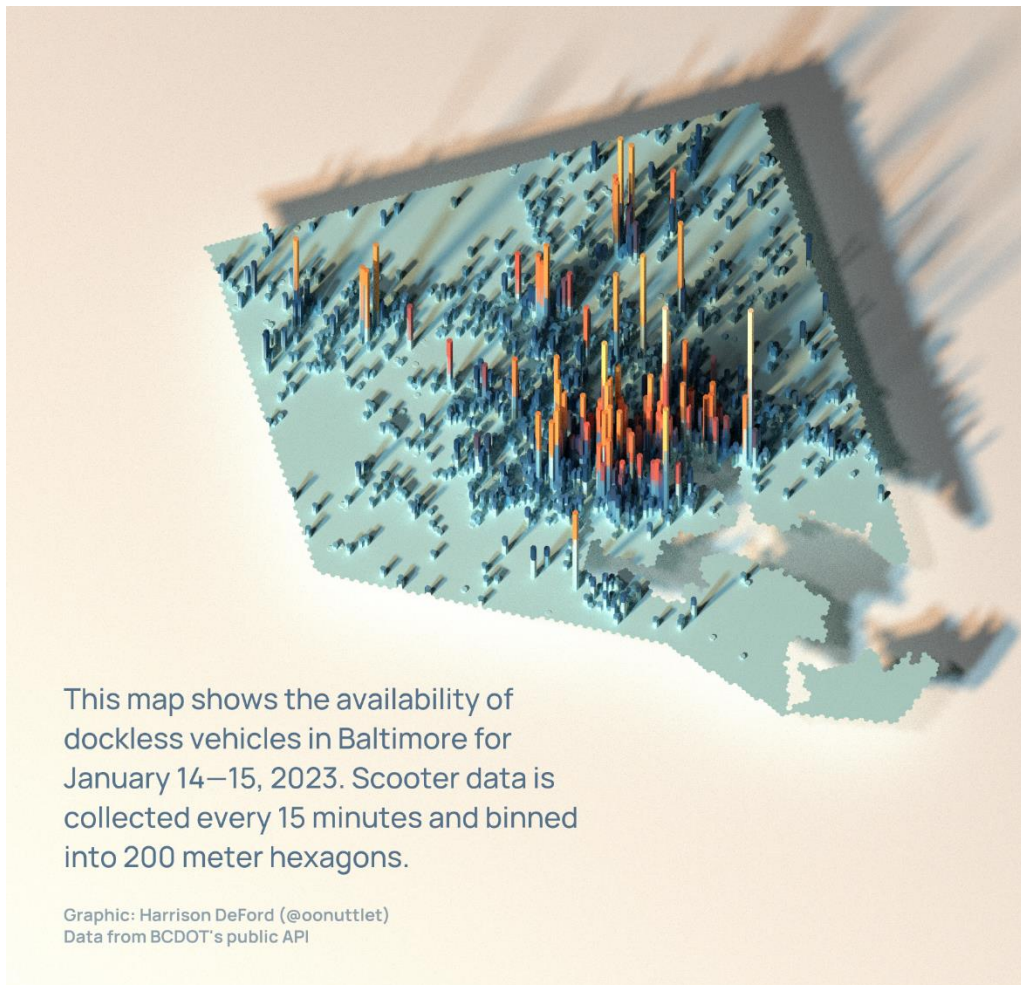


### Dockless Vehicle Availability – Data Visualization

Harrison Deford, a graduate of UMBC, created data visualizations using data from BCDOT's API. He compiled the data to visualize the availability of dockless vehicles throughout Baltimore.

The availability of scooters in Baltimore for the weekend of January 14, 2023, is shown below with higher bars corresponding to higher dockless vehicle availability. Dockless vehicles remained most available in Downtown and the Inner Harbor, with hotspots near Johns Hopkins University, Morgan State University, and at Metro stations.

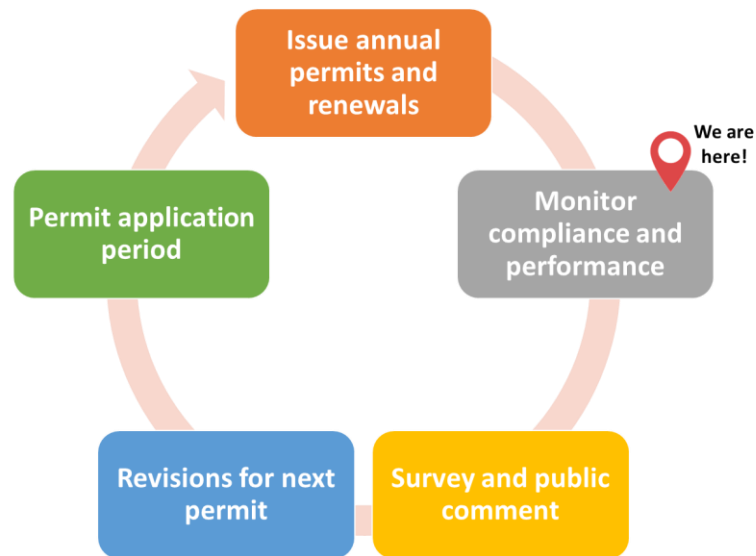
Harford Road also had high scooter availability, with the highest availability near Harford Road and Southern Avenue (near Zeke's Coffee!). The Ravens had an away game on January 15, so there were fewer scooters available near the stadium than during home games.



## Looking Ahead

### Upcoming Program & Policy Dates

- March 15 – April 15 – Rules and Regulations to be released for public comment
- 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
    - E-bike vs. e-scooter routing
    - User survey results preview
    - Public comment on rules & regulations updates 2023-2024
- May 15 – Permit renewal(s) to be announced
- May – Anticipated permit application period (if needed)
- July 2023 - Anticipating 2-3 permits



### Upcoming Events

- 3/12 – St. Patrick’s Day Parade
- 3/31 – Bike Party March Ride
- 5/15 – 5/21 – Maryland Bike to Work Week
- Find other biking and scooting events, including weekly rides here: <https://www.bikemore.net/calendar>

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Please email [dot-community@baltimorecity.gov](mailto: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.