

Dockless Vehicle Committee Meeting

October 12, 2022

Attendees:

Ahmed Rashad, Superpedestrian	Kaitlyn Schaffer, Kittelson & Associates
Allysha Lorber, DOT	Linda Henry, DPOB
Antonio Rossi, MetroBike	Mateo Mayor, Kiwibot
Benjamin Jancewicz, DOT	Matias Longo, Spin
Brandon, Member of the public	Matt Hendrickson, DOT
Breanna Bledsoe, Spin	Matt Kujava, WPB
Britney Green, DOT	Menelik Yeha, Bikemore
Chaquetta Wallace, DOT	Nathan Barash, Bird
Charlene Mingus, BMC	Theo Ngongang, DOT
Chris Broughton, Member of the public	Patrick McMahan, MTA
Chuck Elkins, DC ANC District 1	Phil Sung, Bird
Craig Collins-Young, Member of the public	Ava Richardson, DOP
Dan Hymowitz, Mayor's Office of Performance and Innovation	Robin Drummond, Office of Equity and Civil Rights
Don Halligan, BMC	Shane Sarver, BMC
Erika Duthely, Lime	Sonya Thomas, Bikemore
Felipe Pinzon, Kiwibot	Thandi Nyambose, Bird
Hale Erkan, University of Texas	Timothy von Stetten, Parking Authority
Luciano Diaz, DOT	Tiffany Walker, DOT
Jed Weeks, Bikemore	Meg Young, DOT
Jeff, Member of the public	Zach Williams, Superpedestrian
John, Member of the public	

Meeting Minutes:

- **Permit Cycle**
 - October DVC
 - Compliance review
 - Discuss coalition
 - January DVC
 - Compliance review
 - Fleet increase applications
 - Review survey and R&R potential changes
 - April DVC
 - Compliance review
 - Review survey results
 - Application and R&R public comment
 - 2023 Permit
 - Anticipating 2-3 permits
 - Renewal(s) for any company without citations as of May 15, 2023
 - Application for available permits to open May 2023
- **Data Updates**
 - Weekly trips
 - Daily average vehicles deployed and total daily trips
 - Trips per vehicle per day
 - Data Requests
 - Using micromobility data: highest micromobility ridership streets which do not currently have bike facilities

- North Avenue trip counts: first look at the impact of North Avenue Rising
 - Compliance
 - Corrals
 - Phase 2 Installation: 35 corrals planned
 - Pilot: No-parking areas around corrals
- **Permit Holder Updates**
 - Bird
 - Introduced motorized Whill wheelchairs
 - Scaling up to 1000 vehicles (with 75 e-bikes)
 - Working closely with 14 local fleet managers to deploy, rebalance, clean, maintain vehicles, and provide on-the-ground support
 - Successful first community engagement event with Bikemore
 - LINK by Superpedestrian
 - Welcome Serge!
 - Vehicle availability and hub expansion
 - Equity Programming
 - LINK Up
 - Smartphone-less contact
 - Alternative Vehicles
 - Seated scooters
 - Adaptive vehicle program
 - Spin
 - Launch Spin Insight Level 2 Pilot:
 - November 2022
 - Continuing our Johns Hopkins Carey Business School Research Partnership
 - Request to Launch E-bikes!
 - Google Maps and Lyft Integration
- **Discussion: Coalition**
 - Goal: Reduce vandalism and stereotyping of riders, empower community organizations to bring resources to communities
 - Budget: \$150,000 annually from permit fees
 - Tactics: sign-on agreement, programming, event pop-ups, ambassadors, workforce development
 - Groups from initial meetings:
 - Non-profit partners: B360, Byke, Bikemore, BPRB
 - Permit Holders: Bird, Link, Spin
 - Fiscal sponsors: Baltimore Civic Fund, Fusion Partnerships, Baltimore Corps
- **Questions/Comments**
 - **General**
 - Is there a way to email comments in case I can't stay for the entire time?
 - Please email all comments/questions to dot-community@baltimorecity.gov.
 - Is 311 the best way to report scooters blocking sidewalks or is there another reporting mechanism that should be used?
 - The fastest way to get a resolution is to contact the company, they are required to move a vehicle within 6 hours. When there are repeat violation or vehicles are not moved in that time period, BCDOT can step in. Those recurring issues can be reported to dot-community@baltimorecity.gov.
 - Bike and scooter parking can be requested here, note that install of racks is quarterly: <https://transportation.baltimorecity.gov/bikerackrequestform>
 - When is the next meeting to discuss PDDs?
 - There have not been any updates on Personal Delivery Devices (PDDs) recently, but updates might be included at the next DVC meeting.
 - **Data Updates**
 - What is a high stress street?

- High stress streets are streets with high traffic volumes that are uncomfortable for those walking and biking.
- How are "routes" defined?
 - Routes are segments of streets where there were identified scooter trips.
- Can you tell times of days? Can you tell who are commuters vs special event riders?
 - Yes, we can look at times of day. All data requests can be submitted to dot-community@baltimorecity.gov.
- Does Google/Waze allow cities to offer better route suggestions for people not using cars? I wonder if people just blindly follow Google Maps.
 - The algorithms that Google Maps, Waze, and Apple Maps use are already pretty good, but we're working on getting City connected accounts that we can communicate new infrastructure directly to them.
 - This is great, because google stopped taking community member updates (or at least does not implement them) so there are a lot of flaws in routing for bicycling right now.
- Is there a way to estimate who is using the facility on the bridge vs sidewalks or lanes? Not sure the gps data is that accurate or not.
 - The gps data is not accurate enough. On-street observation could be useful to determine how many people are using sidewalks vs lanes.
 - Patrick @ DOT had mentioned in a meeting about the Washington Street bike lane that they were looking for places to temporarily install bike counters on bike lanes. Maybe the north Ave/83 overpass would be a good location so we can gather more detailed data there?
- Are the recharging workers notified about the new corrals so that they can deposit charged scooters into the corrals?
 - When there is a corral, we send it to the companies since they have to show them in the app. it also becomes the only place on the block where the company can place vehicles for rent.
- I would love to see these corrals coupled with DOT bike racks (the green n shaped ones that the city offers.) I tried to patronize UA store a few weeks ago in Harbor east but had nothing to lock my bike to. The corral sign says to put scooters and bikes there, but nothing is there to lock bikes to.
- Are those zones marked visibly too?
 - The no parking zones are marked in the apps.
 - You have to open the app again to end the ride anyway so you'll see when you end the ride that you're in a red zone.
- There should be little to no expectation to ever park or ride these on sidewalks. Understand the use of wider sidewalks for parking but the apps need to be set up so they can only be parked closest to curbs and away from pedestrians' ability to safely walk on a sidewalk as in make it impossible to end the ride unless it is parked away from pedestrian paths.
 - I do wish we had that capability, the no- parking zones are our first pilot of something along those lines! The gps previously has not been accurate enough do something that detailed.
 - Thank you, I understand the limitations of the GPS. I'd like to see the technology used as much as possible and for riders and drivers to understand that scooters are replacements for driving on the street and not walking
- **Permit Holder Updates**
 - All Bird scooters also have a phone number and email address on them that you can reach out to: hello@bird.co; 1-866-205-2442. We also offer Community Mode to report directly in the Bird app.
 - Does the Whill have space to carry groceries?
 - Specifications for the Whill can be found here: <https://medmartonline.com/whill-model-ci->

- We'd love to get you [Bird] connected with the mayor's commission on disabilities to launch the Whill -- they have events planned for Civil Rights Week coming up
- Is DOT/permit holders giving out helmets?
 - Legally, helmets are required for riders under 16 in Maryland. For a rental vehicle, users generally sign a T&C that they wear a helmet during the rental. Each company usually does helmet giveaways at events! We're happy to connect any rider to a helmet if they want one
 - Community members can request helmets via: dot-community@baltimorecity.gov?
 - Yes, we can link you to the next event where helmets will be available! DOT also keeps a limited number available from the companies.
- Do you participate in any Bike Party events?
 - Contact for Bike Parinfo@baltimorebikeparty.com
 - They're the biggest bike event in Baltimore!
 - I've seen rental scooter riders at bike party before, their range is getting long enough to do the ride.
- Thanks all! My email is zach.williams@superpedestrian.com if you ever need anything from Superpedestrian!
- Superpedestrian accessibility program: <https://superpedestrian.com/accessibility>
- Does the message of get off the sidewalk work even if there is no bike lane nearby?
 - Yes, it's more accurate than we've ever seen! it's a combo of GPS and video data. We appreciate our permit holders innovating! It's something we can push for and if it becomes proven and possible to deploy, we can eventually require it.
- Is it detecting the color of the sidewalk? What about things like concrete bridges that aren't black?
 - Bridges and local areas are locally mapped.
- Will there be a way on the app to search just for bicycles? It is sometimes hard to find a bike in some providers' apps when they're in a sea of scooters.
 - Yes, there is the option in the Bird app.
- Glad to hear about the swappable battery from a sustainability perspective.
- How does the integration with Lyft work?
 - Spin vehicles are available for rent in the Lyft app.
- For any additional Spin questions, please contact me at: breanna.bledsoe@spin.pm!
- **Coalition**
 - I feel like public investment in bike/multi-use lanes is only going to help e-scooters and the companies that run them.
 - Would it be possible to overlay this map with income as well?
 - All data requests can be submitted to dot-community@baltimorecity.gov.
 - Are there insurance concerns for job training programs on ebikes and escooters? The local bike shops have told me their insurance doesn't allow them to work on ebikes.
 - They are contractually obligated to work on all bosch bikes, but that doesn't solve the need for work on an abundance of bafang systems that exist here.
 - The details of working with local bike shops are still in progress.