Dockless Vehicle Committee-- Minutes from: 4/8/2020

Members present:

Meg Young, DOT

Ethan Hasiuk, Kittelson

Sean Laffey, Kittelson

Sharonda Huffman, Office of Equity and Civil Rights

Miller Roberts, Harwood Community Association

Michael Kurlancheek, Lime

Matthew Hendrickson, DOT

Jeff Michael, Johns Hopkins

Robert Gardner, Lime

Jed Weeks, Bikemore

Claire Shibelski, City Council Disctrict 1

Dan Winston, Spin

Ben Hyman, Waterfront Partnership

William Dorfman, Downtown Partnership

Theo Ngongang, DOT

Tereina Galloway, DOT

Arco Sen, Parking Authority

Dylan Shapiro, Spin

Nikia Mack, DOT

Nick Valentino, JUMP

Stephen Deline, Lime

Krys Johnson, JUMP

Jordan Ogbonna, DOT

Brent Flickinger, Planning Department

Victor Tervala, Law Department

Tammy Walters, DOT

Denise Worsley, ATVS

Patrick McMahon, MDOT MTA

This meeting was held virtually through Microsoft teams—both internet and telephone access were available for participation. Members reviewed the revised timeline for the committee and the Dockless permit moving forward. Monthly meetings focus on reviewing data, reporting concerns, and providing feedback to DOT about program support.

Status updates: Permit Holders are considered essential and have been asked to facilitate essential trips. Both JUMP and Spin are operational and are offering free or discounted rides. Both companies agreed to send out sign up links after the meeting. DOT has paused most of non-essential operations but is still managing the dockless vehicle program. Waterfront Partnership presented the location and types of issues reported since the beginning of the year, noting a substantial drop in scooter issues to report since late February.

Data Updates: Ridership and deployment are down significantly since March. Rides per vehicle per day are around or below 1 since COVID-19 response measures have been taken. DOT has begun tracking the effect of COVID-19 response on ridership patterns. Ridership has become more dispersed: a higher share of rides are in equity zones, fewer riders are downtown, and the JHU hospital was the most popular block last week. DOT made a map layer to track trips to hospitals, there was a request to make one for food sites.

User Survey Preview: The user survey was closed on March 28th. The response rate was lower than expected and likely affected by COVID-19. Generally, responses called for more vehicles in more neighborhoods. It was suggested that next year we allow people to list locations where vehicles are needed.

Rules and Regulations Discussion: The DVC discussed current regulations around seizure, insurance, and data reporting. No changes were suggested for towing procedures which were set by the DOT Towing Division. No changes were suggested for insurance requirements, although some attendees offered to look for personal insurance options which could be shared with riders. For data requirements, DOT suggested more uniform monthly reporting, integration with a 311 system, and stating the need for reporting vandalism or theft to DOT.

Announcements: The NACTO Better Bike Share Roundtable is offering emergency response grants. The Roundtable in June will now be virtual. The next meeting date was set for 5/13/20.