

**From:** [Robert Wright](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Sherman, Jacob](#); [Graff, Gabriel](#); [Ciarlo, Catherine](#)  
**Subject:** City Council meeting, 14 October 2020, 9:45 AM, Agenda No. 811  
**Date:** Sunday, October 11, 2020 6:35:13 AM

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The following is my written testimony for the electronic City Council meeting, 14 October 2020, 9:45 AM, Accept 2019 E-Scooter Findings Report and authorize next steps regarding a solicitation from shared micromobility providers to operate in a permanent program.

Portland City Commissioners are about to put the public treasury and pedestrian safety at risk at the same time by issuing permits to companies for the operation of shared electric scooters. Pilot programs for these motorized vehicles starkly revealed a major safety problem: scooter sidewalk riding. The problem was deemed sufficient enough for PBOT to meet with people with disabilities and to produce a safety video. The 2019 E-Scooter Findings Report cited sidewalk riding as a key concern. Certainly, sidewalk safety must be for all pedestrians. Are those without disabilities, including mothers with children, expected to just jump out of the way of a scofflaw e-scooter rider?

PBOT document TRN-15.01 – New Mobility – Shared Electric Scooters outlines the next steps leading to a permanent program. It confirms and documents the evident sidewalk safety problem. An objective of the recent pilot program was to reduce scooter sidewalk riding, and that a licensed e-scooter company must inform riders that sidewalk riding is prohibited. If someone is arrested for violating this prohibition, what is the penalty? In the administrative path ahead, such penalties should be sufficiently high to dissuade riders from this behavior, and to likewise encourage e-scooter companies to firmly warn their scooter riders.

TRN-15.01 states that maximum motor-assisted speed of all shared scooters must be limited by their Permittees to 15 mph. Not all of the streets of Portland are flat. E-scooter speed can also be gravity-assisted. Riding downhill on a sidewalk, in excess of 15 mph, greatly increases the severity of injuries to a struck pedestrian. If e-scooters are to be permitted, they must be required to have automatic self-braking mechanisms to prevent speeds in excess of 15 mph.

TRN-15.01 states that a Permittee shall secure and maintain a primary commercial general liability policy reflecting limits of no less than \$1 million per occurrence and \$2 million in the aggregate for covered claims arising out of, but not limited to, bodily injury. Such bodily injuries must certainly include those of pedestrians struck by a sidewalk rider. It appears that in a permanent program Permittee insurance policies must include that the City of Portland and its officers, agents, and employees are additional insured entities, and that the Permittee shall agree to indemnify, defend, and hold the City of Portland and its elected officials, officers, employees, and agents harmless from and against all claims.

If struck by a sidewalk e-scooter rider that results in permanent life-changing injuries (e.g., paralyzed, confined to a wheel chair, loss of employment, pain and suffering, etc.), claims can well exceed \$2 million. Pedestrians injured by an e-scooter sidewalk rider will not hold the City of Portland harmless; the city that issued permits for an activity that was knowingly difficult to enforce and knowingly unsafe for sidewalk pedestrians.

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**From:** [ron.f.](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Lime scooters  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 3:48:21 PM

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I'm writing to you as a citizen of Portland I've been using Lime scooters another scooter services for a while now and appreciate it if the city of Portland allow them to stay they make traveling easier and cheaper and safer in public transportation especially for those on low income programs

Thank you

Ronald F.

**From:** [paul werth](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Lime Scooter Testimony  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 3:54:36 PM

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Hello, I use lime to do deliveries with Doordash. Its been my lifeline since my bike was stolen. I really need to keep using the scooters to live.

Thank you,

Paul Werth



October 13, 2020

Dear Mayor Wheeler and Council Members,

The Central Eastside Industrial Council is pleased to be writing in support of the e-scooter program in Portland.

In partnership with PBOT, we are currently offering deeply discounted transit options to Central Eastside employees and residents. 2020's "Transportation Wallet" includes \$250 on TriMet, an Annual Streetcar Pass, \$99 in Biketown credit and \$30 in scooter credit for the purchase price of \$99 or free for the trade in of a parking permit. We also offer a free "Golden Wallet" option for individuals living on low income. In a 2018 survey, 96 of 199 surveyed responded that that e-scooters should be part of the transportation wallet package.

The Transportation Wallet is an effective tool for encouraging our community to try new modes of transit, reducing single occupancy vehicle trips. 298 wallets have been distributed this year, of those 169 parking permit opt outs. The amount of permit opt outs dropped this year most likely because of COVID. In 2019, we had 622 parking permit opt outs.

The e-scooter continues to be an attractive part of the Wallet, and a great resource for our district.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Merrill".

Kate Merrill  
CEIC Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Deane Funk".

Deane Funk  
CEIC President

**From:** [Kate Merrill](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Cc:** [Goforth, Sarah](#); [Sherman, Jacob](#)  
**Subject:** Escooter support letter  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 4:19:51 PM  
**Attachments:** [CEIC Escooter.pdf](#)  
[ATT00001.htm](#)  
[ATT00002.htm](#)

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Hi-

Please find attached a support letter for the e-scooter program going to Council tomorrow.

Thanks

Kate



**From:** [Julie Svoboda](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** Testimony for Scooters - In Favor of  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 5:56:41 PM

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Good Day,

As one of the Top 10 Lime users in Portland, I'd like to share my experience with the scooter program and how it has helped me:

I live and work in the downtown/uptown area with no direct Trimet line, so I have found these scooters to be invaluable. I was experiencing a significant medical issue when the pilot program first started, and the scooters have allowed me to travel with ease, and without worry of exerting myself too much physically. Additionally, I am part of the low-income program that has allowed me the freedom to travel without restricting my income too much. And of course, I feel good about my carbon footprint, as it is better for the environment.

For these 4 reasons, I use a scooter almost every day. It has given me the ability to get around without worry, and that peace of mind is something I can bank on in an otherwise harsh, unpredictable world. Please renew the scooter program, as so many of us depend on it.

Thank you,  
Julie S.

**From:** [George Otanic](#)  
**To:** [Council Clerk – Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** E-scooter feedback issue 811  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2020 8:09:20 PM

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Hello,

My name is George Otanic, and I would like to address the City Council regarding the extension of the E-scooters in Portland. I am a huge fan of the scooter program. I live downtown and do not own a car. I use a scooter daily to go to and from work, shop, run errands, go to the doctor, etc. It makes my life so much more convenient. Please consider extending the permitting of these scooters.

Thank you,  
-George Otanic



**City Council Meeting - Wednesday, October 14, 2020 9:30 a.m.**

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Last</b>	<b>Zip</b>
811	William	Henderson	97232
811	Phuong	Bui	97210
811	Derek	Heino	97210
811	Tim	Alborg	97210
811	Maurice	Henderson	
811	Jonathan	Hopkins	98121
811	Lindsey	Murphy	97209
811	Sara, Victor	Stambaugh, Levine	97213
811	Wayne	Reiner	97229
811	Philip J.	Wolfe	97209
811	Mimi	German	
811	Marcus	Mundy	97213