

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

October 26, 2021

Councilmember Mary Cheh
Chair, Committee on Transportation and the Environment
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 108
Washington, DC 20004
mcheh@dccouncil.us

Mr. Everett Lott
Acting Director
District Department of Transportation
250 M Street SE
Washington, DC 20003
Everett.Lott@dc.gov

RE: Solutions to Illegally Parked Scooters Blocking Sidewalks

Dear Councilmember Cheh and Director Lott:

At its regular meeting on October 13, 2021, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission ("ANC 2B" or "Commission") considered the above-referenced matter. With 7 of 8 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (7-0-0):

WHEREAS, scooters and other dockless micromobility options provide an important transportation option and can help reduce reliance on taxis or other automobile trips,

WHEREAS, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) has issued nearly 14,000 permits for these vehicles and the number of permits has increased,

WHEREAS, DDOT guidance requires at least five feet of clearance space on the sidewalk when parking a scooter or dockless bike,

WHEREAS, improperly parked vehicles present a serious safety hazard for people using the sidewalk, especially for individuals with vision impairment or other disability,

WHEREAS, providing access to allow people with visual impairment and other disabilities the ability to safely and fully live their lives is both a civil right and a human right, and is guaranteed by the Americans with Disabilities Act,

WHEREAS, the ubiquity of improperly parked vehicles suggests that the current regulatory framework is insufficient to mitigate the risk presented by improperly parked vehicles as even after the lock-to requirement was implemented problems persisted,

WHEREAS, micromobility corrals offer a dedicated space to store vehicles without impeding on the sidewalk space,

WHEREAS, more precise geofencing than what is currently deployed to prohibit parking in certain areas is commercially available, and

WHEREAS, users who improperly park are at risk of being fined but the commercial operators are subject to no financial risk for the danger created on sidewalks.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that the DC Council and DDOT consider additional approaches to address this issue including some of the solutions described in this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that DDOT shares data on compliance with the new lock-to requirement to evaluate if it becomes more successful over time and if additional facilities are needed to ensure its success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports identifying a clear point of contact for overall issues with the micromobility program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports using information on where vehicles within a specific fleet are parked as a factor in issuing future permits to commercial operators and would urge DDOT and the DC Council to consider placing a moratorium on additional scooters and renewals, especially if operators fail to take steps to mitigate this issue.

Commissioners Mo Pasternak (<u>2B04@anc.dc.gov</u>) and Matthew Holden (<u>2B08@anc.dc.gov</u>) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Wells Hold

Sincerely,

Matthew Holden

Chair