

Scooter Update

January 16, 2018

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Agenda

- Scooters
- Local and state considerations
- Municipal reactions
- UNC Update
- Next steps

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What is a scooter?

- Electric motors that can accelerate uphill to 25 mph without assistance
- Handle controls for acceleration and brakes
- Scootershare:
 - Phone application and electronic payment
 - Company contractors capture, charge and deploy daily
 - Cost: \$1 + \$0.15 per minute



Scotershare in Chapel Hill

- August 23 and 24: Bird deployed 90 scooters
 - Peak cumulative rides: 1,316
 - Peak cumulative riders: 720
 - Average ride minutes: 13.51
 - Beginning and endpoint data
- Bird scooters removed at UNC request
- Additional companies have sought UNC and Town partnership



Scooter Usage August 23 & 24

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Local considerations

- Safety
 - Wake County EMS reported 22 incidents between July 7 and October 12
 - Different safety considerations than bicycles
- University coordination
- Sidewalk clutter
- Enforcement and oversight
- Connectivity



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Local Regulations

- Commerce on sidewalks prohibited
- Bikes not allowed to be ridden on Downtown sidewalks
- Current greenway easements prohibit motorized vehicles



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State considerations

- State vehicle definitions do not readily fit electric scooters
 - Police have interpreted scooters under the current definition of “motorized scooter”
 - Motorized scooter, which includes mopeds, definition includes DOT-rated helmet, registration and insurance
- Legislature may consider revised definition for “scooter” in 2019 session

NC Municipal Reactions

- Raleigh

- October 16: Council approved use of Master Encroachment Agreement for short term
- Developing RFP Process for long term

- Durham

- October 15: Council passed ordinance regulating Shared Active Transportation Systems
- Currently receiving permit applications

- Asheville

- November 27: Council passed ordinance prohibiting scooters

- Charlotte

- 800 scooters since May
- Extending current pilot program with two companies through July, 2019

Update closer to Council

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What is UNC doing about Scooters?

- Presented background and options to advisory board and stakeholders
- Changed ordinance to prohibit on sidewalks
- No decision about scooters until end of school year / waiting for clarity on State law
- Request for Proposals from scootershare companies anticipated if UNC decides to allow scooters on campus
- Coordinating with Town on all aspects of program development

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