



Re: Dockless Bikes and Scooters Impeding Pedestrian Areas

Dear Interim Director Kershbaum:

At a properly noticed general meeting on November 14, 2023, with a quorum present, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6B voted 9-0-0, based on the unanimous recommendation of its Transportation Committee, to submit the following request to the DC Department of Transportation (DDOT).

Through the Shared Fleet Device Program, DDOT works with permitted micromobility operators with a goal of providing “a safe, sustainable, and equitable transportation option.” Unfortunately, ANC 6B has received several concerns from neighbors in recent months about dockless bikes and scooters being parked in unpermitted and unsafe locations while operators are unresponsive to complaints.

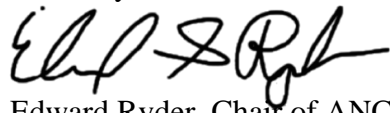
This frustration stems mainly from vehicles that are parked on sidewalks in a way that impedes access and creates unsafe conditions, with pedestrians forced to walk around parked cars and onto the street. We are fortunate to have walkable neighborhoods in and around Capitol Hill, with people of all ages sharing pedestrian areas. When a dockless bike or scooter is parked on the sidewalk, it can be impossible for an individual in a wheelchair or a family with a stroller to pass. Several example photos are attached at the end of this letter.

While DDOT states that “issues may be reported to the District via 311 dockless vehicle complaint or to the operator,” we believe greater enforcement is necessary. We also recommend the designation of more dockless bike parking areas in locations such as the no-parking zones marked by flexiposts to encourage micromobility users to end their rides in a location that does not interfere with pedestrians.

We urge DDOT to take a stronger stance when engaging with operators and consider repeated parking violations before extending permits for Shared Fleet Devices beyond the current December 31, 2024 timeframe.

Thank you for giving great weight to this Commission's recommendations. Should you wish to discuss this letter with the Commission, please contact ANC Commissioner Matt LaFortune, Chair of the ANC 6B Transportation Committee, at 6B09@anc.dc.gov.

Sincerely,



Edward Ryder, Chair of ANC 6B





