

September 27, 2019

Mayor Tory and Members of Toronto City Council
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

RE: AGENDA ITEM IE7.13 - E-SCOOTER OVERSIGHT AND MANAGEMENT

The Toronto Financial District BIA advocates for businesses and their employees in the region's financial centre. Our area includes Canada's largest employment hub, its busiest transit hub, and offices for hundreds of businesses including Canada's five major banks and several global tech companies. Every weekday, more than 200,000 people from across the GTA come to work in the Financial District. For the past seven years, we have worked to ensure the Financial District is accessible for these employees and businesses. Our public streets and sidewalks are busy, and our BIA endeavours to ensure they function well for different modes of transportation.

The increasing use of e-scooters in the public right-of-way in other cities provides both opportunities and challenges for the use of public space. The regulation of these devices, in particular how shared e-scooters operate in Toronto, deserves a thoughtful approach. **For this reason, we support the recommendation to impose a moratorium on e-scooter use until staff have prepared a comprehensive report and appropriate regulatory framework, and Council-approved by-laws are in effect.**

We recognize that e-scooters provide a benefit: namely, last mile connectivity. However shared e-scooter operations appear to have created challenges in busy, urban centres like Toronto, particularly where they are operated and stored on city sidewalks. When shared e-scooters are operated and strewn about on sidewalks, they create a significant barrier and mobility impediment for pedestrians and other sidewalk users. We request that the forthcoming City by-laws for e-scooters contain the following:

- **E-scooters are restricted from operating on City sidewalks and pedestrian ways.**
- **E-scooters are not to be parked, stored, or left on City sidewalks, streets or pedestrian ways and parking should be restricted to designated private property areas where agreements exist between property owner and e-scooter operator.**

If you have any questions or comments, please contact our planning and advocacy manager, Brodie Johnson at bjohnson@torontofinancialdistrict.com.

Best regards,



Grant Humes
Executive Director

cc: Chris Murray, City Manager
Barbara Gray, General Manager, Transportation Services
Carleton Grant, Executive Director, Municipal Licencing & Standards
Dr. Eileen de Villa, Medical Officer of Health, Toronto Public Health
Robin Oliphant, Acting President, Toronto Parking Authority
Wendy Walberg, City Solicitor