

May 3, 2021

Toronto City Council
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M5H 2N2

Re: Item IE21.7, E-scooters – Accessibility and Insurance Issues

Toronto Public Health (TPH) staff have reviewed Transportation Services' staff report *E-scooters – Accessibility and Insurance Issues* dated April 14, 2021 from the General Manager, Transportation Services. TPH agrees with the staff recommendation that City Council decline the option to participate in the provincial pilot project on electric kick-scooters.

Prior to the pandemic, TPH staff worked closely with Transportation Services on research and engagement with other public health partners, including Public Health Ontario, injury prevention colleagues and hospital staff to support research, data collection and analysis of the significant health risks related to e-scooter use.

To prevent an increase in street and side-walk related injuries and fatalities, the current regulations prohibiting the use of e-scooters in public spaces need to be maintained. These regulations are particularly important due to the current strain on the health care system resulting from the pandemic. This focus on preventing injury is aligned with the City's Vision Zero Road Safety goals, including consideration of impacts on pedestrians and persons living with disabilities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eileen".

Eileen de Villa, MD, MBA, MHSc, CCFP, FRCPC
Medical Officer of Health

cc. Barbara Gray, General Manager, Transportation Services