February 26, 2024

## **Dear Committee Members**

This Monday, Toronto Transportation Services will host a meeting with industry stakeholders to share updates on the Micromobility Policy Study. This will be the first industry consultation since 2022, and it is a happy coincidence that it is happening the day the Ontario One-Fare transit fare integration begins.

I'm writing to give you a quick update on SCOOTY's perspective.

Micromobility can help Toronto achieve the goals of the Congestion Management Plan 2023-2026, and the climate change mitigation goals set out in the TransformTO program, including the 2030 Transportation Goals:

• 30 percent of registered vehicles in Toronto are electric

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75 percent of school/work trips under 5 km are walked, biked or by transit

Since the Covid pandemic, there has been a worldwide increase in micromobility use, including in Toronto. With a comprehensive micromobility strategy, including effective integration with transit, Toronto will be in a far better position to use micromobility to move residents and visitors.

It's important that Councillors and staff take a positive, unbiased, open and innovative approach to move ahead on micromobility pilots in Toronto. We are concerned that some concerns about e-Scooters have moved some staff in the opposite direction, leaving Toronto to further miss out on the benefits of micromobility that staff have identified in their public presentations.

Many people cite the vote in Paris to ban e-Scooters as an example of why shared micromobility is not a solution. In fact, the demand and supply for micromobility has increased, and Paris is now taking a new approach that will increase shared micromobility options ahead of the 2024 Olympics.

SCOOTY has always been committed to a proactive, partnership-based approach to shared micromobility. We have shared research and feedback with City of Toronto staff since 2019, addressing concerns related to risk and aligning with the city's strategies and goals.

Our goal has always been to work with Councillors and staff to increase confidence in shared micromobility and e-Scooters by demonstrating why and how partnershipbased programs in Canada, the UK, Australia and much of Europe have been successful. Years of research and experience are showing us that well-managed pilots work and will benefit the residents of Toronto.

I ask you to consider what a well-managed micromobility pilot could do to help people experience and understand micromobility, and support moving forward.

Sincerely,



Shoaib Ahmed Founder & CEO

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