

HISTORIC
**DOWNER
AVENUE**
EASTSIDE

March 8, 2021

Re: Support for Proposed 2021 Dockless Scooter Pilot Study

Dear Chairman Bauman and Members of the Public Works Committee-

Please accept this letter of support for the Department of Public Works' (DPW) proposed 2021 Dockless Scooter Pilot Study. The Downer Avenue Business Improvement District (BID) represents one of Milwaukee's most vibrant, walkable, and historic commercial corridors, and the success of commercial corridors like Downer Avenue is dependent on people visiting our shops, restaurants, bars, and places of employment. The COVID-19 pandemic has placed tremendous strain on our members, and it is crucial that we as a City do all we can in 2021 to encourage safe travel and access to our businesses.

While dockless scooters are still a relatively new mode of transportation, their potential benefits must be adequately assessed and the proposed pilot study as developed will allow DPW to do so. Dockless scooters, bike share, reliable transit service, and walkable streets are all indicators of vibrant cities, and we must continue to do all we can to be a welcoming and innovative city that is willing to experiment with new technologies and ways for people to get around. As we continue to emerge out of the pandemic, it is also vital that we provide safe, individual modes of transportation for people to reach our businesses such as dockless scooters and bike share. We cannot accept a new reality where people resort solely to their individual automobiles to get around.

The pilot study will also allow all of us – the people living, working, playing, and visiting our neighborhoods, you all as elected officials, and the DPW team – to evaluate dockless scooters, understand their benefits, and identify any improvements needed to ensure dockless mobility fits within the transportation landscape of Milwaukee.

Thank you for all you do to make Milwaukee a better place.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth Brodek
Executive Director

Downer Avenue Business Improvement District

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