



March 4th, 2021

Dear Chairman Robert Bauman and Members of the Public Works Committee:

I'm writing today to express VISIT Milwaukee's support for additional study on the use of electric scooters in Milwaukee.

We know that young locals and travelers expect a wide array of transit options while they're in Milwaukee, especially those that reduce carbon emissions and help to minimize car traffic. We also support innovation in transit, just as we did with The Hop, and know that when transportation is improved throughout the city our hospitality businesses like restaurants, bars, hotels, and attractions ultimately benefit.

Additionally, Milwaukee's downtown neighborhoods seem optimal for the scooters and their use by business travelers and convention attendees. Our city is known for its compact, walkable downtown and the use of electric scooters seems to have potential to enhance this important feature of our destination.

Safety, however, is something we hope will be paramount in any study for news modes of transportation, including the development of a thorough plan to enforce established safety guidelines. As much as we support exploring new and exciting modes of transportation, we also need our city to continue to be accessible to all, including those who are hard of hearing, those who use wheelchairs, and those with vision loss. Milwaukee's accessibility attracts not only leisure visitors, but also those looking to relocate themselves or their businesses as well as major meetings and events, like the Democratic National Convention.

It is our sincere hope that these factors will be taken under consideration as you move forward. I welcome your feedback, and I look forward to working together to promote the city's diverse transit options, including electric scooters. If you'd like to discuss this further, I am always available for a call.

Genuinely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peggy Williams-Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Peggy Williams-Smith
President and CEO
VISIT Milwaukee

