

## Melbourne City Council

Agenda item 7.1

### Notice of Motion, Lord Mayor Sally Capp: E-scooters

13 June 2023

#### Motion

That the Future Melbourne Committee:

1. Notes that the draft Annual Plan 2023-24 proposes the following activity: "Establish a Council position on the future of commercial e-scooter operations in the municipality in response to Victorian Government decisions."
2. Requests that this activity includes the production of a report to this Committee by 15 August 2023, which considers and assesses, in addition to matters already under consideration by management, the following:
  - 2.1. The regulatory and enforcement agreements that would be necessary to secure from the State Government in order for the future of commercial e-scooter operations to be considered safe, viable and a net public benefit.
  - 2.2. The role of the Cities of Melbourne, Yarra and Port Phillip, the State, and commercial e-scooter operators, in facilitating education campaigns to drive public safety and, especially, rules as they relate to footpaths.
  - 2.3. The opinions of the City of Melbourne Disability Advisory Committee.
  - 2.4. The adequacy and efficiency of powers available to Local Laws Officers to keep footpaths safe.
  - 2.5. New opportunities available to Council to better identify, manage and regulate e-scooter parking locations.
  - 2.6. What technology is required to better manage compliance with the rules governing the use of commercial e-scooters and the ability of Council to deny commercial operators that cannot deliver that technology.
  - 2.7. The potential, through the Council of Capital City Lord Mayors, National Cabinet or otherwise, to pursue harmonised approaches to laws governing e-scooter to reduce confusion and improve public safety.

#### Background

Shared e-scooters were introduced in the City of Melbourne under a Victorian Government-led trial program in February 2022. In March 2023, this trial program was extended until 5 October 2023.

Over the past 18 months, Melbourne has become one of the world's most in-demand cities for shared e-scooters. Since the scheme launched, there have been over 3.7 million e-scooter trips taken.

This motion requests that Management consider how Council can improve the operation of e-scooters across the municipality. In particular, it requests that Management consider options to address key safety issues associated with e-scooters, including riding on footpaths, and parked e-scooters blocking footpaths. This includes seeking feedback from the City of Melbourne's Disability Advisory Committee on how to address safety and accessibility issues associated with e-scooters.

Council currently relies on cooperation with the contracted shared e-scooter scheme operators, Lime and Neuron, as well as Victoria Police, to enforce compliance with road rules and e-scooter regulations. With the shared e-scooter trial ending in October, this motion also requests Management explore what options are available to Council to better manage and regulate e-scooter operators in future, and how Council can ensure any future shared e-scooter operators are required to operate at the highest possible standards.

**Mover: Lord Mayor Sally Capp**

**Seconder: Cr Davydd Griffiths**