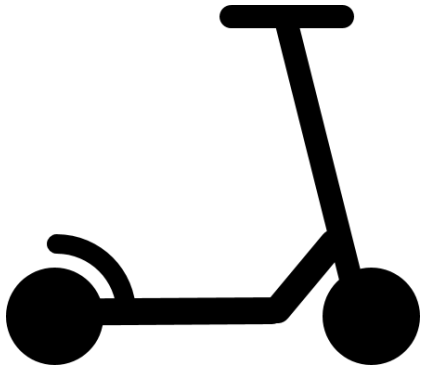


Dockless Shared Mobility Device Pilot Program Update

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

DECEMBER 1, 2020

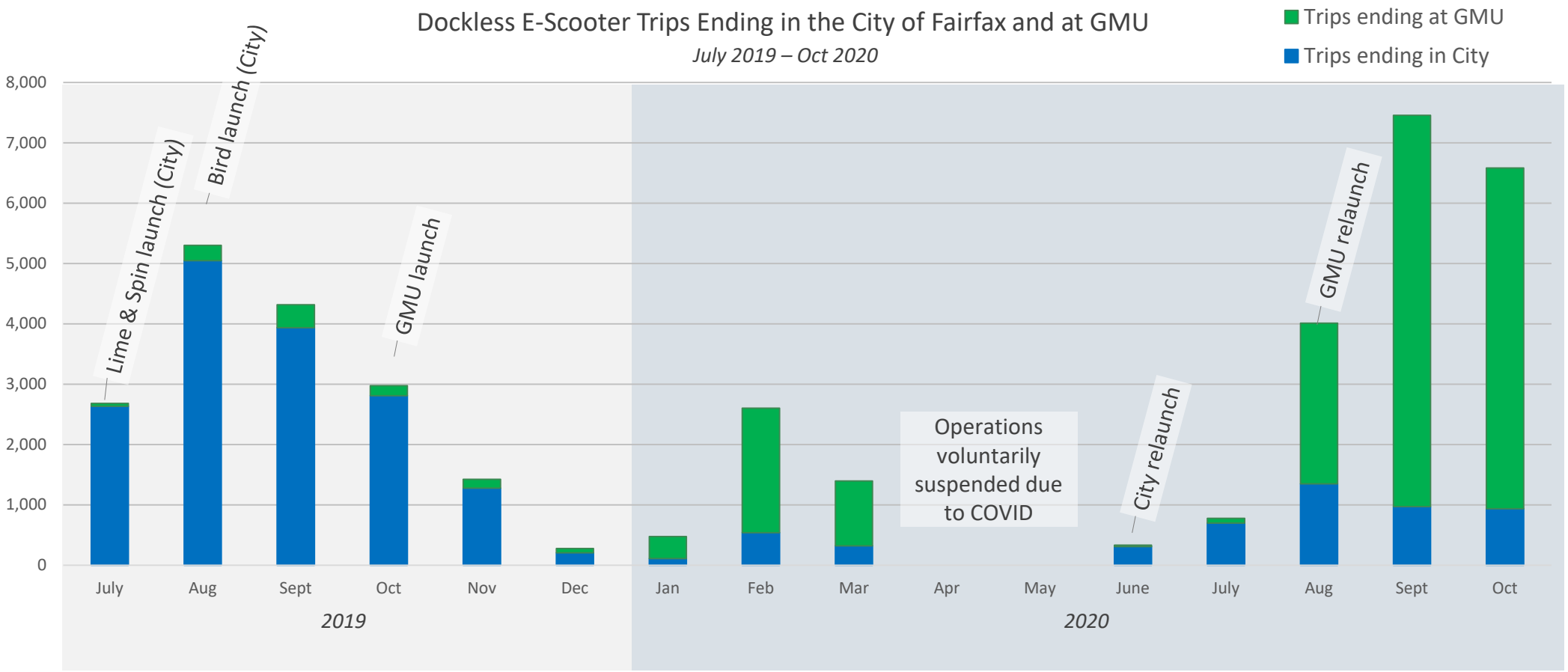
Agenda

- Program Background
- Key Program Requirements
- Next steps

Program Background & Timeline

- The City's "Dockless" Shared Mobility Device (SMD) program permits and regulates rentals of bikes, e-bikes, and e-scooters
- Spring 2019:
  - E-scooter companies interested in operating in Fairfax City, GMU, and other nearby communities
  - General Assembly passed legislation authorizing local regulation of rented SMDs; if no local regulations are in place, companies are permitted to rent SMDs subject to state laws
- May 14, 2019: City Council authorized one-year pilot program (July 2019-June 2020)
  - Three e-scooter companies applied for and received permits (Bird, Lime, and Spin)
- October 2019: GMU launches parallel program on Fairfax campus
- March 2020: COVID-19 impacts begin, all three companies suspend operations
- May 26, 2020: City Council authorized six-month extension of pilot program (through December 31, 2020)
- Summer 2020: Bird and Lime relaunched in the City and at GMU with updated sanitation practices

Monthly Trips



City Permit & MOA: Key Requirements

Permit and trip fees	• $5,000 per year • $0.05 per trip
Fleet size caps	• 250 devices per permit • Opportunities to increase based on utilization (3 trips/day)
Communication, outreach, and education	• Ongoing communication with City staff • Prompt responses to emergency and non-emergency issues • Ongoing outreach and education (including in-person events prior to pandemic) • Customer service phone number • Local operations team (based in the D.C. region)
Parking management and education	• Ongoing effort to ensure SMDs are properly parked • Ongoing education and communication to users about proper parking • Prompt responses to reported parking violations
Device standards and maintenance	• Minimum device requirements per Virginia Code (including lights, brakes, and bells)
Data and reporting	• Monthly report to City • Publicly accessible API showing real-time device locations
Insurance and indemnification	• Proof of minimum insurance requirements • Indemnification of City

Next Steps

- Recommend one-year extension of program (January 1 - December 31, 2021)
  - December 8 City Council meeting
- If approved, staff will make administrative updates to permit and MOA documents (e.g. date changes)
- Companies will have a limited window to apply for renewal or new permits

- Number of e-scooters deployed:
  - Fall 2019: average between 125-200 per day (~30-100 per company; each allowed 250)
  - Spring 2020: average 30-50 per day in the City (more at GMU)
  - Fall 2020: average 50-75 per day in the City (more at GMU – allowing up to 210 total)
- Community feedback:
  - Approximately 100 emails or phone calls between July-December 2019 (majority before October)
  - Approximately 25 emails or phone calls between January-October 2020
- Reported injuries:
  - 8 injuries reported by City Fire Department since July 2019; a few of these have been on GMU's campus