



**MEMO TO:** Planning and Public Works Committee of the Whole

**FROM:** Peter Dane, Senior Planner

**DATE:** April 16, 2019

**SUBJECT:** Bike and Scooter Share Adoption

**I. PURPOSE** ☐ For Info Only ☐ Potential Agenda Item ☒ Scheduled for Council Action

**II. RECOMMENDATION**

Address implementation of a scooter share program at the April 16, 2019 Planning and Public Works Committee of the Whole, following up from the March 26, 2019 Study Session on a bike share program. Legislation to enable implementation of bike and scooter share programs is scheduled for Council action on April 16, 2019, at the Regular Business meeting.

**III. DEPARTMENT CONTACTS**

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**IV. DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND**

The City Council began discussions about launching a bike share program in 2018. During the most recent discussion at the March 26, 2019, Study Session, Council discussed remaining issues related to the launch of bike share operations and directed staff to draft enabling legislation for adoption of bike share by the City Council on April 16, 2019. Council also indicated a desire to expand the bike share launch to allow scooter share operations as well. The bike share issues matrix (Attachment A) has been updated to incorporate responses to the new scooter share issues raised by Council on March 26.

**Bike and Scooter Share Enabling Legislation**

During discussion of a scooter launch, staff advised Council that necessary due diligence would likely require additional time and that scooter enabling legislation would be anticipated to be available for action at the May 7<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

The City Attorney's office has advised that the simplest path forward is to revise the bike share enabling legislation (see ordinance and resolution in Attachments B and C) and the

bike share pilot permit (see Attachment D) to include scooters. Enabling legislation for a bike and scooter share program has been revised to allow for both programs and is scheduled for Council approval on April 16, 2019. Staff plan to inform Council of this revised timeline at the April 16 Planning and Public Works Committee of the Whole.

Staff recommends allowing bicycles to launch as soon as possible, which could occur in May, which coincides with Bike Month. Scooters would launch after this on June 1, 2019.

### **Maximum Number of Bikes and Scooters**

The March 26, 2019 Study Session included a Council recommendation to eliminate proposed restrictions on the maximum number of bikes or scooters. Councilmembers anticipate that the market will determine a reasonable number of vehicles to support a successful business model. This discussion also included a review of the bike share market data gathered in January 2019, which indicated that the two companies surveyed, Lime and Jump, anticipate a market demand for initial deployments of 150 to 250 bikes or scooters per vendor which could grow to 750.

New information learned since this discussion indicates that the scooter sharing industry is still highly competitive and other cities are experiencing a high number of vendors (as many as ten) who are trying to establish their brand in the short-term rather than a long-term approach that is market driven. This has led to more clutter from under-utilized scooters in other cities. Meanwhile, the bike share market appears to be seeing a reduction in competition and associated stabilization.

Redmond may or may not need a tool to manage the number of bikes and scooters, depending on attentiveness to implementation quality by vendors. In order to preserve oversight options, staff recommend a permit condition that allows for City management of the maximum number of bikes and scooters, which could be exceeded based on a vendor performance measure. As a reminder, this is a Pilot program and is designed to provide for well-managed bike and scooter sharing that meets the market demand in a rapidly changing industry.

The proposed oversight approach would:

- a) Increase the maximum number of bikes and scooters allowed between all vendors, regardless of utilization, to 1,200 vehicles from an earlier proposal that limited the maximum number of vehicles to 800; and
- b) Allow bikes or scooters to exceed the 1,200 vehicle threshold based on a performance-based method, such as average rides per day per bike and/or scooter per vendor.

This oversight approach allows a total of 1,200 bike or scooter vehicles, distributed in a proportionate share to each vendor, before the City would exercise management oversight of the number of bikes and scooters. If the 1,200 number is exceeded, then each individual vendor would be allowed to deploy additional bikes or scooters so long as they are being utilized at a fleet average of two rides per vehicle per day (with authority for Public Works Director to select a different average number of rides).

**A. Analysis**

**Bike and Scooter Share Launch Dates**

Council indicated an interest in launching bikes prior to scooters. Bike share would launch in May, during bike to work month, if a vendor submits required materials quickly. Scooter share would launch June 1, 2019.

**Maximum Number of Bikes and Scooters**

Through the permit conditions, the City will have the authority to manage the number of bikes and scooters and have recourse if the number of bikes and scooters are causing clutter or safety issues.

**V. TIME CONSTRAINTS**

At the March 26, 2019 study session, Council requested the bike share enabling legislation be brought for action at the April 16 business meeting in an effort to try to launch a system in May. This legislation is being advanced to enable the launch of both bike and scooter share programs.

**VI. LIST OF ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A: Bike Share Council Issues Matrix

Attachment B: Bike and Scooter Share Right-of-Way Ordinance

Attachment C: Bike and Scooter Share Fee Resolution

Attachment D: Redmond Bike and Scooter Share Pilot Permit Contract