

## CNCL-25-01

**From:** Shaun Gillespie <M.F.I.P.P.A 14(1)>

**Sent:** Friday, January 17, 2025 10:12 AM

**To:** clerks <clerks@oshawa.ca>

**Subject:** Please add to Monday January 27 2025 agenda re Scooter program

Good day Council and City Staff,

I write on behalf of myself and two other voters/taxpayers in our home on Masson Street in Oshawa.

We are corresponding, as a decision is approaching regarding the scooter program, to express our opinion that this is a failed experiment that should not be renewed.

We are opposed to the potential five year extension on, in particular, the scooters (not so much the electric assist bikes) for the following reasons:

- Often the units are left strewn laying about, not on stands and across sidewalks, lawns and on paths and the roads like urban litter. This is not only low-class and ugly, it is dangerous for those with mobility issues, the elderly and those with injuries.

There are no return stations. Had this been the case, with many structured return stations around the city, whereby the renter must replace the unit in an orderly and responsible manner into a dedicated rack to end the fees, a great deal of irresponsible behaviour would've been thwarted.

I have observed a great many riders behaving in an irresponsible manner, even dangerous, while operating the scooters. Many operators drive as the crow flies, utilizing whatever flat surface is available to get to their destinations including lawns, sidewalks, boulevards, roads, parks, and pathways. Common courtesy, as well as the rules of the road, are often ignored as they fly by expecting everybody else to avoid them. Rather than riding safely and defensively, we have often seen riders driving offensively.

Liability is a huge issue, is the city of Oshawa responsible for poor behaviour on city approved bicycles and scooters? Is there a policy number? Does the company that rents the units have a blanket insurance policy to cover reckless drivers and resultant incidents? As we already know from one tragic fatality, this is a hornets nest, and there are as many irresponsible riders as there are responsible, what happens to the average law abiding, taxpaying Oshawa citizen if they become a victim of recklessness, who pays? It certainly will not be a 14 or 15 year old whose parent or sibling activated a unit,

it will not be a person who is financially down on their luck and riding irresponsibly or sometimes intoxicated. Again, who pays if my wife's car gets whacked and the teenage rider leaves the unit and jogs off laughing into a park?

Regarding the power assist bicycles, we are not afraid to say that this seems like a more civilized solution. I don't know if it is because the bicycles were more expensive to rent or attracted a different type of clientele, but we are not opposed to bicycles if the program was run properly with mandatory helmets, return stations and rider liability was explained more clearly to residents. The baskets on the bikes would certainly safely carry a bag of groceries or a school knapsack and this rental possibility fits better with our city than the chaos that the scooters created. As well, the bicycles are a much larger unit and with a rider on board, present a much more visible profile for motorists and pedestrians to observe and avoid safely.

Regards,  
Shaun Gillespie, Leslie Foster, Alexandra Gillespie  
<M.F.I.P.P.A 14(1)>

Sent from my iPhone

From: Darren Stewart <M.F.I.P.P.A 14(1)>

Sent: Saturday, January 18, 2025 8:08 PM

To: clerks <[clerks@oshawa.ca](mailto:clerks@oshawa.ca)>

Subject: objection to extending e-scooter program

We don't think extending the scooter program is in the best interest for the residents of our City.

**From:** Cate Reardon <M.F.I.P.P.A 14(1)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 14, 2025 9:13 PM  
**To:** \* Council <[council@oshawa.ca](mailto:council@oshawa.ca)>  
**Subject:** E-Scooter program in Oshawa

For the record, I am vehemently opposed to extending the e-scooter program in Oshawa.

On several occasions I was nearly run down by people operating them both in Lakeview Park and on the sidewalk along Rossland Rd.

Also they are frequently abandoned in places where there is no consideration given to other users of the space, where they are a hazard to vehicles, cyclists, pedestrians, and mobility challenged individuals.

Cate Reardon

----- Original message -----

From: dotmcfarlane2 <M.F.I.P.P.A 14(1)>

Date: 2025-01-11 12:45 p.m. (GMT-05:00)

To: [council@oshawa.ca](mailto:council@oshawa.ca)

Subject: E-scooter Program

Dear Council Members,

As a mobility scooter user, I've had to deal with too many e-scooters blocking my way on sidewalks. They're awkward to lift too. Please don't extend the program.

Sincerely,

Dot McFarlane

<M.F.I.P.P.A 14(1)>

**From:** Beth Kelly

**Sent:** January 12, 2025 10:51 AM

**To:** [clerks@oshawa.ca](mailto:clerks@oshawa.ca)

**Cc:** <M.F.I.P.P.A 14(1)> Erika Bradbury <<M.F.I.P.P.A 14(1)> [servic@oshawa.ca](mailto:servic@oshawa.ca)

**Subject:** Report ED-25-14 E-mobility Pilot Program

Chair Marimpietri,

Councilors Chapman, Giberson, Gray, and Kerr, Mayor Carter

Frist I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year!

I do apologize that this letter is coming in at the last minute, but I only was made aware of the report on Sunday January 12, 2025.

I have sent emails to Service Oshawa and the Mayor's office on our issues with the E-scooters that have been part of this pilot project.

The scooters have continually been dumper on our private property and have had to be moved onto sidewalks and streets in order for grass cutting and safe passage of our tenants. I have sent emails to Service Oshawa to put in place a "not permitted on our sites" on Oshawa and yet we continue to find them on our properties.

I have been told by Service Oshawa it is up to me to contact the providers about scooters trespassing and being parked where they should not be. I fail to see why it is up to me to look after this issue, I have no contract with the providers to force them to move the scooters.

I have said before to Service Oshawa and the Mayor's office that should an accident happen on our properties with one of these e-scooters I will be looking to The City and the providers to save us harmless.

Will By-law be out at 2, 3, 4am to enforce the no trespassing rules?

The City has continually reduced traffic speed to 40 Kmh on a great number of streets due to safety concerns but yet promoting the use of e-scooter on these streets I fail to see the logic on this action.

An interesting note about e-scooters from my travels around the world that any cities that permit e-scooters do so on a very limited area usually the downtown core where there vary wide pathways.

The report talks about this being revenue neutral, but it does not address the cost of infrastructure upgrades to roads, bus shelter areas for parking, by-law time to enforce rules the list of costs will be ongoing.

I believe in my opinion that there is much missing in this report that needs to be addressed before the City should decide to continue the with this project such as underage riders and enforcement, the style of scooter, is it designed for the terrain that is being ridden on?

Have any other Cities in the world stopped allowing the use of e-scooters or cut back in the areas that they permit the use of e-scooters?

If the City should continue with the e-scooters there needs to be a way that anyone with an issue has a central place to lodge that issue and a time that it will be addressed not just sending an email into a vacuum with no way of knowing the issues has been delt with other than to go back and check after the allotted time.

Always I am available for further information on my specific issues.

Respectfully submitted

Beth Kelly President

<M.F.I.P.P.A 14(1)>

**From:** Terry SQUIRE <M.F.I.P.P.A 14(1)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 12, 2025 10:44 PM  
**To:** \* Council <council@oshawa.ca>; clerks <clerks@oshawa.ca>  
**Cc:** terry SQUIRE <M.F.I.P.P.A 14(1)>  
**Subject:** Please Cancel the E-Scooter Program

Council Members,

As the future of the E-Scooter program is again before you, I am asking that you cancel the program in Oshawa at this time. Many cities in Canada and abroad have tried the programs as Oshawa has, but have cancelled them due to safety concerns.

As you can see from the picture below (taken from one of my security cameras) they are simply not being operated properly or safely in Oshawa. When they are ridden like this they are highly unstable and a hazard to those of us who simply want to use the sidewalks to go for things like the mail. As I am a Senior Citizen, I am simply not as nimble as I once was to be able to dart out of the way of these things being ridden inappropriately !! Since I have many pictures like this one, this is not an isolated incident. In another incident I noticed a scrape on the bottom of the driveway, when I went back to the security video to see where it came from, it was from one of these scooters wiping out and the rear sprocket scraping against the driveway !! I would be happy to attempt to send the video to any of you interested.

I would like to know if there are any local statistics of injuries or enforcement when they are being ridden inappropriately on sidewalks. Some will argue that they are just another option for some people, but because they do not operate in the winter taxpayers still have to pay for the transportation infrastructure that they are taking fares away from, so they may be a novelty for some, but costly overall. If people want to use this method of transportation, I would suggest that they buy one of their own.

Until these companies can assure that their products are being ridden properly and safely and are prepared to pay for the enforcement infrastructure to ensure that they are, the program should not be extended in Oshawa. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss further.

Thank you,

Terry Squire



