OFFERED BY COUNCILORS ED FLYNN, JOHN FITZGERALD, BREADON, COLETTA ZAPATA, DURKAN, FERNANDES ANDERSON, MEJIA, MURPHY, PEPÉN, SANTANA, WEBER, AND LOUIJEUNE



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO DISCUSS REQUIRING ALL MICRO-MOBILITY DEVICES TO BE LICENSED, REGISTERED, AND INSURED

WHEREAS:

Residents across Boston have witnessed speeding along our streets and sidewalks, frequent running of stop signs and red lights, going the wrong way on one-way streets, and navigating between vehicles either in traffic or at traffic lights by mopeds, scooters, electric bikes, bikes, and other micro-mobility devices; *and*

WHEREAS:

Residents have consistently shared serious concerns about how these micro-mobility devices don't have a license, registration or liability insurance in the event of a crash, and that they pose a danger to pedestrian safety and make crossing the street and walking on sidewalks less safe. This new dynamic impacts road safety and can put pedestrians, drivers, cyclists, and users of micro-mobility devices in harm's way; *and*

WHEREAS:

Last June, Boston Police Department and Boston Transportation Department issued a letter to third-party food delivery companies warning them about working with illegal mopeds, and State Police also impounded illegal mopeds and scooters; *and*

WHEREAS:

Last week, the administration proposed a new ordinance that would require the largest third-party delivery providers such as DoorDash, UberEats and GrubHub to obtain a permit to operate within the city, which would require the companies to have liability insurance coverage for all drivers using their platform. However, this does not provide consistency in requiring all micro-mobility devices and users of the road, as well as those that can go 20 mph, to be licensed, registered, and insured; *and*

WHEREAS:

Everyone using city roads needs to abide by the rules of the road, especially if a device's speed limit can go beyond 20 mph like a motor vehicle. There should be a license, registration, and liability insurance in the event of a serious accident and injury, as well as increased enforcement and stricter regulations on mopeds, scooters, electric bikes, bikes, and other micro-mobility transportation devices. Our residents, pedestrians, and all road users deserve to operate on safe streets with a predictable environment and minimal dangers to road safety; *and*

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED:

That the appropriate Committee of the Boston City Council holds a hearing to discuss requiring all users of the road and micro-mobility devices to be licensed, registered and insured. Representatives from the Boston Transportation Department, Boston Police Department, as well as other relevant and interested parties shall be invited to attend.

Filed on: February 12, 2025