April 22, 2019

Dear Mayor Wilson, Members of the Alexandria City Council and City Attorney Anderson:

We write to raise serious concerns with the "Dockless Mobility Pilot Program" authorized in November 2018. We understand that this is a pilot project, and the first application was approved on January 7, 2019, starting the clock on the nine month pilot. Unfortunately, in a short amount of time, our community has seen a proliferation of dockless mobility devices ("scooters"). According to the Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") entered into by the City and the seven dockless mobility companies, each company was permitted to place 200 scooters in Alexandria. Clearly, the vast majority of those 1400 scooters are in the historic district of Alexandria.

Although the City's decision to approve this pilot may have been well-intended, there are several unintended consequences that raise safety and other concerns. As residents and homeowners in Old Town, we believe that City Council should immediately rescind the pilot project for several reasons, including safety quality of life concerns.

- From a safety perspective, scooter riders are not obeying the rules that prohibit riding on sidewalks, are often ignoring traffic signs and have been involved in accidents with pedestrians. Within one block in town, and in the course of only a few days, a young teenager was hit by a scooter, an elderly woman fell and injured herself trying to avoid a scooter riding on the sidewalk and others walking their dogs have been in close calls with scooters. Often times, the individual on the scooter did not even stop to ensure those injured were okay. Additionally, as scooter usage has increased in other communities, there has been a spike in emergency room visits. The vast majority of the most serious injuries have been head injuries, and in some cases, there have been deaths associated with the use of scooters. Recently, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control announced a study into the increase in injuries stemming from these scooters. Did the City carefully assess the risks and liability exposure should there be a significant injury or death associated with the use of these scooters in Alexandria? It is highly likely that the City will be on the receiving end of a number of individual lawsuits, if not a class action at some point.
- In addition, the scooters are randomly being discarded throughout Old Town, creating visual clutter and an appearance of scooters being "littered" all over town. Despite the limitations on where these scooters can be placed according to the MOU, users of the scooters are leaving them leaning against houses, blocking front doors, tipped across sidewalks and on their sides in curbs. One recent count had nearly 150 scooters randomly scattered along King Street. The scooters are literally everywhere one looks in town. Old Town is first and foremost a walkable community. Visitors, tourists and residents alike are drawn to Old Town for its charm, history and uniqueness. The sight of all of these scooters is doing significant damage to the overall look and feel of our community. Not only are the scooters unsightly, they are a hazard.

 The community opposition to this pilot is growing. Such opposition is likely to generate media attention. Negative media coverage of this situation has the potential to damage the City's reputation as one of the "best small cities in the United States."

According to the City's "dockless mobility" page on its website, "The City will be evaluating this program throughout the duration of the demonstration, and your feedback will be requested." We strongly urge that your interim evaluation recognize that the decision to authorize this pilot was a mistake and it should be rescinded. We simply cannot sustain five more months of this pilot program. As we enter into the busier Spring and summer seasons, the number of scooter riders is likely to increase dramatically. The current unsustainable situation will simply grow worse. City Council should immediately rescind the pilot program's authorization before the situation escalates or someone is seriously injured.

If you are unwilling to take this immediate action, a special public meeting should be scheduled to allow residents to provide direct feedback to City Council. We are certain the opposition to this pilot program will be overwhelming at such a session, and Council should hear the feedback directly.

We encourage you to act with urgency to address this out of control scooter situation.

Thank you.

Greg Wilson & Kathleen Cummings 130 Prince Street

Cheryl Amyx & Mike Morehouse 115 Prince Street

Pat & John Burke 110 Prince Street

Scott & Sharon Weiss 112 Prince Street

David Charney 414 North Union Street

Tracey Spotts
518 Queen Street

Barbara Jayne Clancy 223 North Saint Asaph Street

Jeff and Christine Ferry 413 Oronoco Street Robert & Cheryl Hornyan 103 Prince Street

Paulette & Jack Wynn 102 Prince Street

Brandon Hensley & Jim Lettenberger

107 Prince Street

Frances Schauer, Jr. & Mary O'Donnell

121 Prince Street

Melissa Rosario 906 Prince Street

Kate Viar

126 Prince Street

Derek and Erin Connor 1001 Cameron Street

Nancy and Mark Fox 128 North Union Street Gail Rothrock & Charles Trozzo 209 Duke Street

Chuck Gregorios & Anne Kelso 601 North Fairfax Street, #502

Eva & Martin Kamm 116 Prince Street

Patricia A. Riley 219 Oronoco Street

Byron Weston 304 Prince Street

Kim & Bruce Gustafson 954 North Washington Street

Miles and Martha Wilhelm 201 Duke Street

Joel and Suellen Newman 519 Princess Street

Robert and Sabine Bisson 206 South Lee Street

Nat Spencer 203 South Lee Street

Anita Winsor & William Edwards 213 South Pitt Street

Marci & Robert Lash 225 South Lee Street

Kristien Zenkov & Audra Parker 304 North Saint Asaph Street

Stacey Edgington 513 Queen Street

Kattiya Urbanski 364 North Saint Asaph Street

Marilea Fried 906 Prince Street, #101

Cameron Tayrani & Adria Villar 209 South Fairfax Street

NOTE: The above individuals provided their electronic consent to sign this letter. In addition, we attach a list of 50 additional signatories who provided their names and addresses in person. Importantly, these additional 50 names were collected in approximately 90 minutes at the farmer's market on Saturday, April 20, 2019. In fact, numerous individuals waited in a line to sign this form to show their concerns and to support our request to rescind the authorization for the pilot program.

NAME	ADDRESS
Zaria Stott	728 N. Iveron St.
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UPTON	208 N PITT
Bridget Kocot	1205 Muntly Pl, 22307
Jajo Robinson	306 N. FAIRFAX ST 22314
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meghan Juna	314 monaire dine
Fristin Smith	314 Monaire Dine
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Mary Jay lo	7508 Dayword Rd.
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Dan Huffman	121 N. ST Asaph
Sarah Duncan + Kiley Lorson	103 Harvard Street
Andrew Kocot Jaho Kr	1205 Huntly Place
Sherri Lind Hughes	116 N. West St.
Jeffrey R. Hughes	116 N. West St.
gwel K. Smith	906 S. Washington 8+313
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Patricia D. FORNKIN	1609 Stombridge Ref , 22304
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Kafhteen Dabiks	110 Roberts Lu Aptubil Alexandra 23
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Benjamin Greene Ravan Holm	2109 Mill Rd Apt 314 alwarder VAZZ

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