

To: Sona Coffee, Chair, City of Long Beach Sustainability Commission  
From: Tim Harter, Bird Rides, LLC  
Re: Letter Submission for Commission Meeting 5/28, Item 2

---



Bird is proud to have served Long Beach since the inception of the micromobility pilot program. With our small fleet of 300 vehicles, we have seen over one hundred thousand rides during our history. From survey data conducted in Long Beach, we know that more than 1/3 of all rides replace car trips; trips connecting users to transit, employment, school, businesses and restaurants. Long Beach quickly adopted micromobility, demonstrating success for the program and the notion that, given the availability, residents will turn to sustainable modes of transportation for commuting and short trips.

We write to gain the support of the Long Beach Sustainability Commission in requesting the Department of Public Works to restart the Micromobility Pilot Program. Now with concern over riding in public transportation, we worry that without access to our fleet, residents will return to cars to fulfill short trips.

Cities throughout California -- including the state of California -- have deemed micromobility services essential transportation during this crisis. To help those on the frontlines, Bird is offering all frontline/essential workers free rides. Additionally, there are many riders in Long Beach enrolled in our Bird Access Program, our affordable program for those who receive financial assistance. We are unable to provide either of these services to Long Beach with the program paused.

We are strongly encouraged to see the developments related to new bike lane implementation in the city. As demonstrated in the staff report, implementation of bike lanes will increase ridership, safety, and accessibility for all users of the road. Broadway's success is just the start of a promising future of improvements that will have tremendous impacts in Long Beach.

We value our partnership with Long Beach. We believe that Bird is positioned to assist with Long Beach's recovery related to COVID-19. E-scooters are single-rider occupancy vehicles and allow riders a safe way to travel while maintaining 6-feet distance. As residents begin to move about the city, especially now that open streets are implemented to enhance social distancing, our hope is to continue to build upon the already successful pilot program. Again, we please ask that the micromobility pilot program be resumed to create access to affordable and sustainable mobility.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Tim Harter". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Tim Harter  
Senior Manager, California  
Bird Government Partnerships