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## **Mayor Liccardo, Council Colleagues to E-Scooter Companies: “Innovate, or Don’t Operate” in San Jose**

*Mayor Liccardo proposes “geofencing” technology requirements for e-scooter companies to receive permit to operate in San Jose*

**San Jose, Calif.** – In response to [widespread reports of serious injuries and two deaths as a result of electric Scooter collisions in U.S. cities](#), Mayor Sam Liccardo and Councilmembers Dev Davis and Raul Peralez have released proposed requirements that e-scooter companies deploy innovative technology-based safety solutions in order to operate in San Jose.

Among the proposed guidelines, Mayor Liccardo and his colleagues have challenged e-scooter companies to implement existing geofencing technologies to prevent or slow riders from operating on sidewalks in pedestrian-dense areas, and ensure that eScooter on-street storage does not obstruct or create hazards for pedestrians or cyclists. They have offered the City of San Jose as a partner in implementing these solution, offering public right-of-way for sensors or other infrastructure needed to ensure effective deployment.

Read the Mayor’s joint memorandum with Councilmembers Davis and Peralez:  
<http://www.sanjoseca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/81647>

The serious risks posed by eScooters have led to at least temporary bans in cities like Seattle, San Francisco, and Madrid, but Mayor Liccardo proposes a more collaborative solution.

“Here in the heart of Silicon Valley, we can leverage technology to reduce safety risks, while supporting the mobility options that thousands of our residents clearly want,” **said Mayor Liccardo**. “Urban residents throughout our nation have felt both delighted and beleaguered by the proliferation of electric scooters. As accounts of injury-causing collisions mount, it has become increasingly clear that micromobility requires more innovation to ensure safety in a public environment. In particular, the use of scooters at high speeds on sidewalks poses serious collision risk to seniors, residents with physical disabilities, and many other wary pedestrians.”

“E-scooters are a great solution for that last mile connection in an urban setting,” **states Councilmember Dev Davis**, “we just want to make sure that last mile is safely traveled and people get to their destination without collision or contusions.”

“While new technology in micromobility are welcomed in urban settings such as downtown San José, we must be conscientious of pedestrian safety and maintain walkability on our public right of ways,” **said Councilmember Raul Peralez.**

Several weeks ago, Mayor Liccardo and Santa Monica Mayor Ted Winterer co-signed a letter, challenging CEO’s of leading eScooter companies to partner with them in deploying safety-enhancing technologies. Resulting conversations with companies have led Mayor Liccardo to believe that such technologies are available and implementable.

The Mayor’s and Councilmembers’ proposal will be heard at the December 12 Rules Committee meeting, with a request that it be considered in conjunction with the proposed regulations that the Administration will present to the Council on December 18.

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