



Recommendation for Action

File #: 19-1389, **Agenda Item #:** 24.

5/23/2019

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance amending City Code Title 13 (Transportation Services) to add a new Chapter 13-8 related to franchise requirements for Shared Bicycle Services and Shared Micro-Mobility Services.

Lead Department

Austin Transportation Department

Fiscal Note

There is no financial impact for this item.

For More Information:

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Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

February 28, 2019 - Reviewed by the Council Mobility Committee

Additional Backup Information:

City Code Title 13 (Transportation) authorizes the Austin Transportation Department (ATD) to regulate companies offering transportation services to the public by way of taxi, charter buses, charter vans, limousines, pedicabs, and electric low-speed vehicles.

This action would create a new chapter under City Code Title 13 (Transportation), establishing a franchise and other regulatory requirements, for companies offering Shared Bicycle Services or Shared Micro-Mobility Services to include shared active transportation (dockless mobility) units or other publicly offered transportation services, that enables users short-term access, consumed on an as-needed basis.

The creation of Shared Bicycle Service franchise and Shared Mobility Services franchise requirements will result in greater protections against oversaturation of units, heightening commitments of service from providers, and enhanced organization of shared mobility services City-wide. This model would also provide greater levels of stability and profitability for companies holding franchise permits, resulting in greater reinvestment, back into our communities and better management of devices overall.

Additionally, the creation of a shared bicycle service and shared mobility service franchise program would be evaluated based upon six strategic areas wherein companies must demonstrate competence in order to gain access to Austin's marketplace. These strategic areas would be founded upon the Six Anchors of the Austin Strategic Direction 2023's (SD23) plan, and include equity, affordability, innovation, resilience and sustainability, proactive prevention, and community trust and relationships.

This action does not include Transportation Network Carriers (TNC's) or electric personal assistive mobility devices under Texas Transportation Code Section 551.201.