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Int. No. 214

By Council Members Hanif, Brooks-Powers, Brewer, Restler, Louis, Hudson, Abreu, Schulman, Thomas-Henry and Aldebol

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to requiring micromobility share system operators to display rules of the road for safe operation

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Subchapter 3 of chapter 1 of title 19 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new section 19-176.4 to read as follows:

§ 19-176.4 Rules of the road for safe operation of shared bicycles and scooters. a. Definitions. For the purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

Bicycle. The term "bicycle" means a bicycle as defined in section 102 of the vehicle and traffic law or a bicycle with electric assist as defined in section 102-c of the vehicle and traffic law.

Electric scooter. The term "electric scooter" has the same meaning as set forth in section 114-e of the vehicle and traffic law.

Micromobility share system. The term "micromobility share system" means a network of self-service and publicly available bicycles or electric scooters, and any related infrastructure, in which a trip begins or ends on any highway, as defined in section 118 of the vehicle and traffic law.

Micromobility share station. The term "micromobility share station" means infrastructure with 1 or more spaces dedicated to parking bicycles or electric scooters that are part of a micromobility share system but does not include areas of the street or sidewalk set aside for parking of bicycles or electric scooters only by signage or markings.

b. Electronic display. No later than 120 days after the effective date of the local law that added this section the operator of a micromobility share system shall ensure that every user of that system reviews the rules of the road pertaining to safe operation of bicycles or electric scooters before using a smartphone application or other software program through an electronic device to unlock or activate a bicycle or electric scooter. The information shall be displayed in audio-visual form, and in any other form required by the commissioner, to new users and at least once per year to existing users. The micromobility share system operator shall not charge a fee for time spent reviewing the rules of the road prior to unlocking or activating a device.

c. Physical display. No later than 1 year after the effective date of the local law that added this section the operator of a micromobility share system shall ensure that every micromobility share station displays the rules of the road for safe operation of bicycles or electric scooters. The commissioner shall determine in their discretion the language, location, content, size, and manner of display and shall make model signs available on the department of transportation's website.

d. Content. The rules of the road required to be displayed by micromobility share system operators pursuant to this section must match the applicable provisions of the vehicle and traffic law, the code, and the rules of the city of New York. The display shall include information on:

1. Yielding to pedestrians;

2. Complying with stop signs, red lights, and pedestrian control signals;

3. Riding in the direction of traffic;

4. Riding on sidewalks, streets, and bicycle lanes;

5. Using a bell;

6. Wearing earphones or other devices that limit hearing; and

7. Operating the bicycle or scooter at safe speeds;

8. Any other rules required by the commissioner.

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§ 2. This local law takes effect immediately.

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