City of Bellevue

8/4/2026

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA TOPIC

Update on the Shared Micromobility Program

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ONLY	Staff will share an update on the Shared Micromobility Program including the results of the program's request-for-qualifications, proposed program launch date and further details of the program's mechanics.

RECOMMENDATION

N/A

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

Background

City code was revised in the summer of 2025 to update regulations for the use of motorized foot-scooters in the right-of-way (BCC 11.48.210) to create the opportunity for a potential shared micromobility vendor to operate both e-bikes and e-scooters in the city. The July 22, 2025 study session materials on this topic noted the Transportation Director had the authority to authorize a shared micromobility program through a right-of-way use permit..

Following approval of the code, an internal leadership team was formed to develop requirements for operations of a shared micromobility program. Staff subsequently released an request for proposals (RFP) in late 2025 to solicit a vendor to operate a shared micromobility program based on the developed operational requirements. Through the RFP process, Lime was the vendor selected and a contract to regulate their operations in the city right-of-way was signed in July of 2026.

Program Launch

In coordination with Lime, a program launch date of August 10, 2026 has been set. A community event is scheduled for August 21, 2026 at the Meadow across from the Bellevue Transit Center where city staff, councilmembers, Lime and other mobility partners will celebrate the kick-off the shared micromobility program in Bellevue.

The initial deployment of shared micromobility devices will consist of approximately 500 total devices: 350 e-scooters, 100 gliders, and 50 e-bikes.

Currently, the city has approximately 45 parking corrals placed across the city for devices to be voluntarily parked in. Lime offers incentives for users to park in these designated corrals to end their ride. Further corrals will be deployed after the program is running and device parking patterns are identified.

Geofencing

A micromobility geofence is a virtual boundary around specific geographic areas where a shared micromobility device will have to abide by specific rules. Lime will operate the following types of geofences in Bellevue:

- Service Zones: Defines rideable area in the city.
- No Parking Zones: Prevents riders from parking within a certain zone but allows riding through the zone.
    - Example: Freeway overpasses and Bellevue parks.
- No Operation Zones: Slows riders to a full stop to prevent entering and parking with the zone.
    - Examples: Areas next to the lake shores, schools, select parks, golf courses and light rail tracks.
- Low Speed Zones: Reduce rider speed to prevent conflict with pedestrians.
    - Examples: Near senior living centers, Bellevue parks and along NE 6th St from the Bellevue Transit Center to Bellevue Way.
- Mandatory Parking Zones: Prevent riders from parking outside of a designated parking area.
    - Examples: Transit centers and light rail stops.

Geofences on private property and at transit stations will be coordinated between Lime and those property owners.

System Performance

The city has procured a third-party data platform called Ride Report which helps manage and evaluate the micromobility program performance. Program performance will be monitored using key performance indicators such as parking compliance, fleet up time, customer service responsiveness, and safety. As safety is a critical component of a successful program, the city and Lime will both provide rider education. Lime will launch a safety campaign in Bellevue through community events. Lime will also have safety tips in the app as well as safety requirements and incentives when operating a device. This includes Lime Vision (a camera-based sidewalk detection platform), helmet-wearing incentives, tandem rider recognition technology and in-app guidance on best routes. City staff will table at various community events to promote rider safety and endorse a city micromobility webpage which offers more information on rider safety.

Communication

Pre-Launch: A shared micromobility webpage has been published and contains information on safe riding and how to contact Lime in the event an issue has been identified with one of their devices. There is also a comment form on the page for general feedback that goes to staff managing the program. A press release has also be posted across all our communication channels to announce the launch.

Launch: A program launch event has been scheduled for August 21 at 3:30 pm in the Meadow across from the Bellevue Transit Center. Councilmembers, city staff, Lime staff, other mobility partners in the region and the general public have been invited to participate in this event.

Post-Launch: Staff will monitor feedback and concerns submitted to the city. City staff will attend select

community events with Lime to promote the program and rider safety.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

Bellevue's Comprehensive Plan aims to "maintain and enhance a comprehensive multimodal transportation system to serve all members of the community" (Transportation Element Goal). Policies direct the City to:

TR-13: Evaluate and facilitate car-sharing and micromobility-sharing programs.

TR-105. Support the establishment and operation of a shared micromobility service in Bellevue.

Fiscal Impact

Lime will be responsible for operation of devices in the right-of-way. The contract with Lime includes a yearly fee, per ride and per device fees, permit fees, and any fines related to non-compliance.

OPTIONS

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

N/A

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

Contract with Lime