



City of San Marcos

Scooter Pilot Program Update

March 16, 2021



Background

- **Ordinance prohibiting “for profit” scooters – May 2020**
 - **Provided for Scooter Pilot program**
- **City joined University in discussion on potential Pilot with Spin**
- **Agreements with Spin reached – August 2020**
- **Scooter Pilot begins – September 2020**



Program Monitoring

- **Project team uses real time GPS software**
 - Provides detailed scooter location and “dwell” time
- **City staff time spent monitoring: 75 Hours (Sep. – Jan.)**
 - Field audits (twice weekly, random times)
- **Weekly meetings**
 - City / University / Spin
 - Mainstreet & Communications Dept. participation



Performance Metrics

- **Scooter Pilot Ridership Data: (Sep. 23 – Feb. 25)**

Unique Riders	5,010
Trips Completed	20,207
Miles Traveled	31,163
Hours of Service	5,385

- **Spin reports San Marcos is a high performer**



Public Safety & Infrastructure

- **Pilot Findings - Public Safety**

- Three (3) non-critical injuries reported (no hospital visits)
- Provided socially distant form of travel during Pandemic
- Zero (0) COVID-19 cases reported by Spin employees

- **Pilot Findings – Infrastructure Limitations**

- Audits suggest less than one (1) mis-parked scooter per day
- Downtown businesses provided minimal negative feedback
- No scooters in the river (effective “geofencing”)



Community Engagement

- **Spin partners with Community organizations**
 - **Main Street**
 - **Greater San Marcos Partnership**
- **Spin provided “Spin to Vote” – free rides for Nov. 3 elections**
- **Spin provides “Access” – discounted rides to qualified riders**



Challenges

- **Theft & Vandalism**
 - Occurs in all scooter markets
 - Occurs to all scooter companies
 - Impacts minimized - new scooter model
- **Travel Demand**
 - COVID-19
 - Downtown parking availability
 - University students remote learning



Summary

- **Successful program monitoring**
- **Demand exists for this form of transportation**
- **Appears to be a safe form of transportation**
- **Vendor has worked closely with the community**
- **Staff Recommendation: Continue the scooter pilot program through the summer and solicit a full time provider**



Recommended Next Steps

- **Continue Pilot program through Summer 2021**
- **Make needed changes to the Ordinance**
- **City and University complete RFP solicitation**
 - **Both dockless bicycles & scooters required**
- **Council approval of selected vendor**
- **Full program roll-out for Fall 2021 semester**



Council Direction Needed

Is Council interested in moving beyond a pilot program?

If yes, is the preference for a single provider or multiple providers?