

E-Scooters - What we heard and how it will be addressed

There were 1107 survey respondents and votes for and against were very close. The final count was 562 for and 545 against E-Scooters in the City of Leduc.

The opportunities fall into these categories:

- More transportation options
 - Residents are excited to have other options to get around, especially options other than a private automobile.
- Environmental benefits
 - Residents are excited about the environmental benefits this program would bring including the reduction of fewer trips by car resulting in less greenhouse gases and pollution. The pilot program will allow residents to ride them throughout developed areas of Leduc to maximize this potential.

The concerns fall into these categories:

- Too high speeds/too low speeds
 - There was significant input on e-scooter speed and many residents had an opinion that the proposed speeds were either too fast (safety concerns) or too slow (right to go a reasonable speed for the conditions). Administration has addressed these concerns through the speed limiter installed in each e-scooter and dedicated slow-down zones where applicable. Speed limits will be addressed in the agreement between the micro-mobility company and the City of Leduc with no changes to bylaws required.
- Safety of riders and others
 - Safety concerns included elderly pedestrians, helmet usage and safety of scooter riders themselves. Administration has addressed these concerns using a speed limiter in each e-scooter and Bird Canada conducting regular safety checks in high usage areas and providing safety guidance when signing up through the mobile app. Helmet usage will be strongly recommended but will not be mandatory due to the extreme difficulty in enforcement.
- Clutter of e-scooters/parking concerns
 - Parking concerns were related to e-scooters being parked where they aren't supposed to be. Bird Canada has committed to be operationally engaged in any parking concerns and to deal with them promptly. Failure to address parking concerns may lead to the termination of the agreement between the City and Bird Canada.
- Concern about taxpayers paying for e-scooters
 - This is not an issue as there is no cost to City of Leduc taxpayers.
- Infrastructure praises and concerns
 - There was significant input regarding the City of Leduc's great multiway system or poor multiway system depending on who was filling out the survey. The multiway functionality is being preserved by limiting the number of e-scooters permitted in the

City of Leduc through the agreement with Bird Canada. The agreement will specify the maximum and minimum numbers of e-scooters.

- Extra policing costs
 - Residents are concerned about increasing policing costs due to e-scooters. This is not likely to be an issue because Bird Canada would be responsible for the enforcement of e-scooter concerns and governors on the scooters will ensure compliance with speeds. The only enforcement issue is related to parking which would be Bird Canada’s responsibility to enforce and if this becomes a significant issue, the pilot program would likely be cancelled.
- Vandalism/misuse
 - Residents are concerned about the potential of vandalism and misuse of the e-scooters. While scooters may be vandalized, the City of Leduc is not responsible for e-scooter vandalism and Bird Canada understands the risks involved in operating an e-scooter company.
- Pricing concerns, want more pricing options (daily, monthly, etc.)
 - Residents are interested in the pricing options and want to see more options for the City of Leduc. This is something that will be discussed with Bird Canada but is at the discretion of their business model as this is a private business.
- Preference of other transportation options instead (bike, transit, etc.)
 - Residents are aware and interested in other transportation options as well, and some would prefer other modes of transportation such as cycling, taking transit and walking. E-scooters do not have a priority on any multiway or roadways and therefore, will not restrict other modes of transportation.