1200 New Jersey Avenue SE. Washington, DC 20590



March 21, 2023

The Honorable Jennifer Homendy Chair National Transportation Safety Board 490 L'Enfant Plaza East, SW Washington, DC 20594

Dear Chair Homendy:

We have reviewed the National Transportation Safety Board's (NTSB) November 14, 2022, report, *Micromobility: Data Challenges Associated with Assessing the Prevalence and Risk of Electric Scooter and Electric Bicycle Fatalities and Injuries*, (SRR-22-01), and the safety recommendations to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). NHTSA's responses to the recommendations are discussed below.

NTSB Recommendation and Requested Designation:

H-22-26: Work with the Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) to ensure that revisions to the Model Minimum Uniform Crash Criteria (MMUCC) include data elements for electric scooters and electric bicycles.

NHTSA Action:

NHTSA established an intergovernmental committee consisting of state and local employees, including a representative from GHSA, that are involved in crash data collection to provide feedback and advice on the next iteration of the MMUCC, which will be the Sixth Edition (see 87 FR 39898, July 5, 2022). The current draft includes a data element to collect information on the use of electric scooters and electric bicycles, among other conveyances. NHTSA published the current draft MMUCC Sixth Edition in the Federal Register on February 2, 2023, with a request for comment.¹

NHTSA requests that recommendation H-22-26 be classified as **Open**, **Acceptable Response**.

H-22-27: Using the new data collection requirements in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, update Countermeasures That Work: A Highway Safety Countermeasure Guide for State Highway Safety Offices to include analysis of electric scooter and electric bicycle rider data and provide strategies to increase electric scooter and electric bicycle rider safety, similar to what is already published for other vulnerable road users, like pedestrians and bicyclists.

 $^{^{1}\,\}underline{\text{https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/02/2023-02140/request-for-comment-draft-model-minimum-uniform-crash-criteria-mmucc-guideline-sixth-edition}$

NHTSA Action:

The Tenth Edition of Countermeasures That Work: A Highway Safety Countermeasure Guide for State Highway Safety Offices, 2020 references electric scooters and electric bicycles as an emerging issue and acknowledges the data challenges associated with these micromobility devices.² As mentioned in NTSB's Micromobility report, new data requirements will provide an opportunity to analyze crash data about these vulnerable road users. These results can then be used to develop and evaluate safety countermeasures. For a countermeasure to be included in our Guide, it must be shown to be effective in published research. NHTSA updates this Guide approximately every 2 years, including a full review of research on each topic. There are minimal data on electric scooter and electric bicycle rider crashes and few safety programs. When evaluating countermeasures, there are multiple criteria considered, including who conducted the study and where it was published, the adequacy of the study population and/or data, and the strength and appropriateness of the study design. The degree of rigor in implementation, the appropriateness and rigor of the data analysis, the appropriateness of conclusions, and demonstrated crash reductions are also considered. If new countermeasures' effectiveness can be determined, they will be included in the ensuing Guide.

NHTSA intends to include an analysis of electric scooter and electric bicycle rider data and countermeasures specifically designed for these road users in *Countermeasures That Work: A Highway Safety Countermeasure Guide for State Highway Safety Offices* as soon as these data are available and countermeasure effectiveness is determined.

NHTSA requests that recommendation H-22-27 be classified as **Open, Acceptable Response**.

If you have any questions, or require additional information, please contact me or Darren Hall, Office of Governmental Affairs, Policy and Strategic Planning, at 202-650-7620.

Sincerely,

Ann Carlson

Acting Administrator

² <u>Countermeasures That Work: A Highway Safety Countermeasure Guide for State Highway Safety Offices, 10th Edition, 2020 (bts.gov)</u>