

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE November 15, 2024

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Planned Launch of Personal Delivery Devices - Avride**

In October 2024, Avride, a developer of autonomous vehicles and delivery robots, approached the City with their intent to begin mapping sidewalks in and near the Central Business District using their Personal Delivery Devices (PDDs). According to Avride, they plan to begin deployment of the PDDs for mapping purposes over the next few months. After mapping the sidewalks, Avride plans to use the PDDs for deliveries.

Background: On October 3, 2024, Avride and Uber Technologies, Inc. announced a multiyear strategic partnership to use Avride's delivery robots and autonomous vehicles for Uber and Uber Eats deliveries. This partnership launched in Austin, Texas earlier this month and Avride plans to expand in Dallas and other US cities.

The Avride PDD is a compact, six-wheeled device designed for urban environments. The robot size is approximately 35 X 27 X 47 inches, has a top speed of 5 mph, and a payload mass of 44 lbs. The PDD is designed to operate on sidewalks and paved surfaces, interacting safely with pedestrians and other road users. It is not intended for highways, private properties without permission, or areas not designated for pedestrian use. Additional information, including visuals of the Avride PDD, can be found at [Avride | Delivery Robot](#).

A similar technology and planned use was presented in 2018 to the [Mobility Solutions, Infrastructure, and Sustainability \(MSIS\) Committee](#), and in a City Council Briefing.

State Administrative Code: Texas Transportation Code Chapter 552A allows PDDs to operate in pedestrian areas. Chapter 552A allows cities to regulate PDDs if the regulations are not inconsistent with Chapter 552A.

Next Steps: The city does not have regulations related to PDDs. Staff is preparing to brief the Public Safety committee during its scheduled meeting on December 9, 2024. In addition, the briefing will be included in the Transportation & Infrastructure committee material at its December 3, 2024 meeting.

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Please contact Ghassan (Gus) Khankarli, PhD, PE, Director of the Department of Transportation and Public Works, at Ghassan.Khankarli@dallas.gov if you have questions.

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