



**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**THE JOHN A. WILSON BUILDING**  
**1350 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004**

**David Grosso**  
Councilmember At-Large  
Chairperson, Committee on Education

**Committee Member**  
Health  
Human Services  
Judiciary and Public Safety

April 23, 2018

Dear Councilmember Cheh,

*Mary*

I have always been a strong supporter of additional bicycle infrastructure in the District of Columbia. While we have recently been designated a "Gold" city by the League of American Bicyclists, there is clearly so much more we need to do.

Most importantly, we need to build more protected bike lanes. I applaud your questions at the FY19 DDOT Budget Oversight Hearing regarding this issue, and your push for additional projects and funding to provide the type of infrastructure that will safely accommodate not only adult commuters, but also children and families biking to school and elsewhere.

In regards to dockless bikeshare, I am glad to see that these companies are providing low cost access throughout the city, and that their growth does not appear to be at the expense of our important Capital Bikeshare network. There is great potential for dockless bikeshare to make it easier for students to get to schools, which are not adequately served by our transit network.

However, I have many concerns about the dockless bikes blocking sidewalks, curb ramps, and more. Some of this is due to users placing bicycles in poor locations. In other instances, it may be a result of bicycles falling over due to winds or being knocked over. As we consider the potential extension of the pilot and future permanent regulations, I think that we need to do more to keep our sidewalks clear for pedestrians.

The best place for a dockless bikeshare user to place their bike is at a rack. The problem, of course, is that we don't have nearly enough bike racks in our city. There are many in commercial areas, but only a handful on our residential blocks. We should have at least one bike rack at every one of our 7,700 intersections in the city. No one should ever have to walk several blocks from a rack to their destination.

I request that we try to find a way to install a bike rack on every intersection in DC - commercial, residential, and industrial. This would be an important step for ensuring that all bicyclists can more easily find a place to park their personal or dockless bike, and will also help keep our sidewalks clear for pedestrians. Even for our (primarily commercial) intersections that already have a rack, we certainly need more.

To pay for this project, in addition to our capital funds, we could potentially use licensing fees from dockless bikeshare operators. In San Francisco for example, their new regulations include a fee for

a new bike rack for each two permitted bicycles. A standard U rack costs about \$70 in materials, and with labor the total cost for this would likely be \$2-3 million to install 7,700 new racks.

Thank you for your advocacy for more bicycling infrastructure and safe sidewalks. I look forward to working with you more on this issue and others.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Grosso", written in a cursive style.

David Grosso  
D.C. Council, At-Large  
Chairperson, Committee on Education