**MIP: Assessing the Benefits and Barriers to the Use of E-Scooters and E-Bikes for Low-Income People**

**Partnership Proposal**

# Introduction

Scooters are an **easy-to-store**, **low-cost travel** solution for short commutes or in combination with transit. These vehicles offer residents in urban areas greater opportunities to increase mobility and save money.

The MITRE Corporation (MITRE) is conducting a study to assess the employment benefits and drawbacks to low-income workers from the use of e-Scooters as a mean of commute. The MITRE research team is looking to partner with community-based workforce development organizations or employers to **offer your low-income workforce development clients or employer staff their own e-Scooter** in the next **4 – 6 months**.

# MITRE’s Responsibilities

In this partnership, MITRE will:

1. Provide free e-Scooters, helmets, and cable locks. These will be transferred to partner organizations before handling to participants.
2. Provide an application/survey to help select participants
3. Meet with your organization and participants to
   1. Demonstrate and instruct participants on e-Scooter use
   2. Advise on safety guideline and efficient routes
   3. Advise on e-Scooter maintenance
4. Provide gift cards for participants who completed study surveys and interviews
5. Analyze survey results and quantify the employment benefits of e-Scooter usage to low-income workers if any
6. Share aggregate study results with your organization

# Partner Responsibilities

In this partnership, we expect our partners to:

1. Nominate potential participants and assist the MITRE team in administering a study application survey
2. Advise on participant selections during the screening process
3. Collaborate with MITRE in organizing an orientation session
4. Take ownership of scooters and provide them to selected participants. If any scooters are left from distributing to the initial set of participants, help identify more candidates and provide them the remaining scooters if feasible
5. Provide periodic data updates on participant employment status and contact information
6. Collaborate with MITRE to retrieve scooters and perform exit interviews for participants who choose to exit the study and return the scooter
7. Review and comment on research findings, which will not be personally identifiable

# Partner Requirements

Our partners will:

1. Maintain a personal injury insurance coverage
2. Agree and sign a partnership agreement
3. Accept the donations of e-Scooters, helmets, and cable locks from MITRE and agree to and sign a property donation form

# Participant Requirements

Potential candidates to this study should meet the following criteria:

1. Estimated annual income (single) <=$30,000 or estimated annual income (with dependents) <= $40,000
2. Age between 18 and 60 years old
3. Weight less than 220lb to safely operate an e-scooter
4. Not being pregnant due to safety concerns of operating a scooter

# About the MITRE Corporation

The MITRE Corporation (MITRE) is a non-for-profit organization with a vision to solve problems for a safer world. We work in the public interest to discover new possibilities, create unexpected opportunities, and lead by pioneering together for the public good to bring innovative ideas into existence. MITRE has worked in the transportation sector for over 50 years.

We are a team of analysts from MITRE’s Transportation Innovation Center with experience in surface transportation, micromobility, data analytics, economic modeling, urban and infrastructure planning, and policy analysis. Our goal is to provide data analytics and scientific research to better inform and assist decision makers. Past projects we have worked on include collecting and analyzing vehicle sensor data; survey research on driver trust in automated technologies, assessing the real-time risk of route planning; evaluating the needs and responsibilities of shared micromobility bystanders; and economic impact studies and benefit-cost analysis of transportation related projects.

For more information, please concat the study Principal Investigator: Keith Cambell, keithc@mitre.org.