



**House Committee on Transportation  
Hearing on House Bill 2126  
Hearing Date – February 13, 2019**

**Written Testimony in support of HB 2126 on behalf of the City of Manhattan  
By the Honorable Michael L. Dodson, Mayor of Manhattan**

Good afternoon Chair Proehl, Vice Chair Thimesch and Honorable Members of the House Committee on Transportation. My name is Michael L. Dodson, Mayor of Manhattan.

**The City of Manhattan supports HB 2126 as written**, concerning regulating the operation of electric-assisted scooters on roads and highways. The City of Manhattan and Kansas State University have been approached by multiple electric-assisted scooter (e-scooter) companies this the past year to deploy this new trend in shared transportation systems. However, current Kansas law is silent on the definition of e-scooters and a city's ability to regulate these self-propelled vehicles. Many cities across the country are experiencing the difficulties of e-scooter companies popping up in their communities, dropping hundreds or thousands of dockless e-scooters in the public-right-of-way with no warning or ability for Cities to enact regulations and educate the public of the use of e-scooters.

- Manhattan is a growing community with a diverse population, and there is a growing need for increased forms of multi-modal transportation much like many other cities in Kansas. While it is still to be determined the impact e-scooter ride-share systems can have on cities, there is an increasing interest and support from citizens to consider and discuss new modes of alternative transportation such as this.
- To ensure the safety of its residents, the City of Manhattan supports HB 2126 providing cities the ability to consider authorization and community-specific regulations of e-scooters that are unique to each city, such as use of the public-right-of-way, parking, permitted uses on streets, and zoning regulations.
- The City of Manhattan supports the HB 2126 provision to not require the registration of electric-assisted scooters with the Kansas Department of Revenue, leaving terms, rules and number of e-scooters deployed by a company to be negotiated and agreed upon by cities.

For all the reasons stated above, the City of Manhattan supports HB 2126 concerning the operation of E-Scooters and providing cities the authority to regulate this growing shared transportation system. Thank you for your time and consideration.