



February 15, 2024

The Honorable Anthony D'Esposito
Chairman, Subcommittee on Emergency
Management and Technology
Committee on Homeland Security
U.S. House of Representatives
H2-176 Ford House Office Building

The Honorable Troy Carter
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Emergency
Management and Technology
Committee on Homeland Security
U.S. House of Representatives
H2-117 Ford House Office Building

Dear Chairman D'Esposito and Ranking Member Carter:

DoorDash would like to thank the Subcommittee on Emergency Management and Technology for holding the hearing, "Examining Fire Hazards: Lithium-Ion Batteries and Other Threats to Fire Safety", and calling attention to the fire hazards posed by the proliferation of substandard, imported lithium-ion batteries powering micromobility devices. We would also like to express our support for Representative Ritchie Torres's [H.R. 1797](#), the "Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act", of which Chairman D'Esposito and committee members Rep. Clarke, Rep. Garbarino, and Rep. Goldman are original cosponsors. It is critical that the United States establish battery safety standards for all micromobility devices so that every American can use these products without putting themselves, their families, or their neighbors at risk.

DoorDash is a technology company that connects consumers with their favorite local businesses in more than 25 countries across the globe. Founded in 2013, DoorDash builds products and services to help businesses innovate, grow, and reach more customers. DoorDash is building infrastructure for local commerce, enabling merchants to thrive in the convenience economy, giving consumers access to more of their communities, and providing work that empowers. With DoorDash, there is a neighborhood of good in every order.

Electric micromobility is a crucial component of transportation in the U.S., particularly for more urban areas. However, it is essential that electric micromobility products in the U.S. marketplace are safe to use and do not create fire hazards due to their reliance on lithium-ion batteries. This issue is particularly important for food delivery workers, many of whom own these devices and use them to earn extra income. Recent fires in New York City and other major cities have highlighted the dangers posed by these products, and a multipronged solution is required to not only remove substandard lithium-ion batteries already on our streets, but also prevent the sale and import of new lithium-ion batteries that lack adequate safety standards.

DoorDash is working with stakeholders to address e-bike battery fire hazards in a number of ways. We are financially supporting the [Equitable Commute Project](#) to fund the development of the first trade-in program dedicated to delivery workers in NYC. This program runs events on a regular basis to help delivery workers transition from their existing device to a new UL-certified e-bike, and making sure uncertified batteries are properly recycled and disposed of. We've also helped educate Dashers and others in the communities we serve about safe e-bike practices, including contributing \$100,000 to the FDNY Foundation's e-bike and battery safety education campaign.

In addition, DoorDash has partnered with electric bicycle suppliers to expand access to affordable, safe e-bikes so that Americans who use the DoorDash platform to make deliveries and earn extra income have more transit options. These partnerships allow Dashers to purchase safe, discounted electric bicycles from reputable



manufacturers and expand access to electric bicycle rentals. While these efforts are a productive first step, their effectiveness will be limited as long as the marketplace continues to be flooded with shoddy, foreign-made e-bikes powered by uncertified lithium-ion batteries.

Local and state solutions, however well-conceived, are also falling short. Recently, New York City passed a local safety standard requiring all lithium-ion powered micromobility devices sold in the city to be UL certified, with violators subject to a civil penalty of up to \$1,000. Despite its dedicated efforts, the city has struggled with enforcement due to the widespread availability of substandard batteries through popular online marketplaces. Unsurprisingly, it is difficult to effectively reduce the flow of uncertified batteries at the municipal level when these products can still be readily purchased in neighboring communities or through the internet. Localized approaches are not effective for this type of problem, we need a national policy that can be enforced at our borders.

H.R. 1797 would do just that by requiring the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to promulgate a final consumer product safety standard for rechargeable lithium-ion batteries used in micromobility devices within 180 days of enactment. Shutting down the flow of unsafe batteries will help make families across the country safer, and protect hardworking communities from the hazards that come from shoddy, foreign-manufactured lithium-ion batteries. The "Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act" is necessary to address these loopholes by ensuring that a national safety standard exists.

DoorDash will continue to work with all stakeholders and to remove hazardous lithium-ion batteries from our communities, but a safety floor must be put in place to ensure that unsafe batteries do not enter the marketplace to begin with.

We thank Chairman D'Esposito for his leadership on this issue and the Committee for holding this important hearing.

Sincerely,

Carrianna Suiter Kuruvilla
Head of Federal Government Relations
DoorDash

Kassandra Perez-Desir
Head of Government Relations NY/NJ & Puerto Rico
DoorDash