

Local governments are forcing the scooter industry to grow up fast

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Gone are the days when tech companies can deploy their services in cities without any regard for rules and regulations. Before the rise of electric scooters, cities had already become hip to tech's status quo (thanks to the likes of <u>Uber</u> and <u>Lyft</u>) and were ready to regulate. We explored some of this in "<u>The uncertain future of shared scooters</u>," but since then, new challenges have emerged for scooter startups.

And for scooter startups, city regulations can make or break their businesses across nearly every aspect of operations, especially two major ones: ridership growth and ability to attract investor dollars. From issuing permits to determining how many scooters any one company can operate at any one time to enforcing low-income plans and impacting product roadmaps, the ball is really in the city's court.

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