

Australian Capital Territory

Road Transport (General) Application of Road Transport Legislation (Lime Electric Scooter) Declaration 2026

Disallowable instrument DI2026-24

made under the

Road Transport (General) Act 1999, s 13 (Power to exclude vehicles, persons or animals from road transport legislation)

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Introduction

This explanatory statement relates to the *Road Transport (General) Application of Road Transport Legislation (Lime Electric Scooter) Declaration 2026* as made by the Minister for City and Government Services and presented to the Legislative Assembly (the *Assembly*). It has been prepared to assist the reader of the instrument and to help inform debate on it. It does not form part of the instrument and has not been endorsed by the Assembly.

Overview

Section 13 (1) of the *Road Transport (General) Act 1999* (the *Act*) provides that the Minister may declare that the road transport legislation, or a provision of the road transport legislation, does not apply to a vehicle, person or animal in a place or circumstance stated in the declaration. Section 13 (3) of the Act makes such a declaration a disallowable instrument.

Section 18A (a) (vii) (A) of the *Road Transport (Road Rules) Regulation 2017* (the *road rules regulation*) states that a device is a personal mobility device (a *PMD*) only if it does not exceed 1,250mm in length. A device that meets the definition of a PMD means that it is:

- not considered a motor vehicle under the Act; and
- not a registrable vehicle under the *Road Transport (Vehicle Registration) Act 1999*; and
- subject to the additional road rules under division 14.3 of the road rules regulation.

Lime Network Pty Ltd (*Lime*) will be operating a shared micromobility scheme in the ACT, using a permit under the *Public Unleased Land Act 2013* (a *PULA permit*). Lime's electric scooters have a length of 1,320mm which exceeds the maximum

length defined in section 18A (a) (vii) (A) of the road rules regulation. Lime's electric scooter, but for its length, would otherwise meet all the requirements of section 18A of the road rules regulation to be a PMD.

To allow the Lime electric scooters to legally operate as PMDs and be subject to additional PMD road rules that allow safe use of the shared micromobility service, this declaration allows the maximum length of Lime's electric scooters to be more than 1250mm, but less than 1350mm in length. The allowance of 30mm is to account for any variance in manufacturing.

The exemption is valid only for electric scooters owned and operated by Lime and is conditional on Lime holding a PULA permit. The PULA permit contains several requirements and conditions that Lime must comply with.

Human Rights

This instrument engages with rights under the *Human Rights Act 2004* (the *HRA*).

This instrument promotes the right to freedom of movement under section 13 of the HRA by facilitating greater mobility in public places. This instrument will enable riders who may be unable to use a motor vehicle, to access parts of Canberra life more easily and affordably through a shared micromobility service.

This instrument also promotes the right to a healthy environment under section 27C of the HRA by facilitating zero-emission transport options and reducing the need for motor vehicle use. A reduction of motor vehicle use will therefore reduce vehicle emissions and contribute to cleaner air in the ACT.

Climate Change

Supporting the shared micromobility scheme reduces the need for motor vehicle use and therefore reduces vehicle emissions in the ACT.

Regulatory Impact Statement

Section 34 of the *Legislation Act 2001* (the *Legislation Act*) provides that if a proposed subordinate law or disallowable instrument (the *proposed law*) is likely to impose appreciable costs on the community, or a part of the community, then, before the proposed law is made, the Minister administering the authorising law must arrange for a regulatory impact statement to be prepared for the proposed law.

In this case, a regulatory impact statement is not required for this instrument as it is not expected to impose appreciable costs on the community or part of the community (section 34 (1) of the *Legislation Act*).