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## IN SAN FRANCISCO, A CITYWIDE SERVICE FOR SHARING ELECTRIC SCOOTERS

 TELECOMMUNICATIONS

**Scoot is a brand-new effort about to launch in San Francisco that will make electric scooters available to the public for a monthly or occasional fee.**

It was 2007 when we first covered Paris's [Vélib'](#) bike-sharing initiative, and since then the vehicle-sharing concept has spread around the globe, not just for bicycles but for cars as well. The latest spotting? [Scoot](#), a brand-new effort about to launch in San Francisco that will make electric scooters available to anyone for a monthly or occasional fee. Currently in closed alpha testing, Scoot will operate on a model much like Zipcar's, according to a recent [report](#) on Co.Exist. A smartphone app will enable users to not only to find a scooter nearby, but also to reserve it and then unlock it — on each scooter is a spot in which to dock a smartphone and doing so is what enables the vehicle to run. Once on the road, the phone displays a map along with other data. With a maximum speed of 30 mph and a range of 20 to 30 miles, Scoot's scooters will charge when returned to their "home" parking spots. Pricing will be around USD 5 per hour for a trip, with monthly deals for heavy users, according to a [report](#) on USA Today. Helmets and insurance will be included. Scoot is reportedly targeting corporate clients with the service initially, with plans to expand afterwards to public transit stops and then a citywide presence. Twenty networked scooters are scheduled to be deployed by April, Co.Exist reports, but ultimately Scoot hopes to expand to other cities as well. Green-minded entrepreneurs: one to get involved in? Spotted by: Murtaza Patel

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