

## Proposal #1: Electric scooters

This is a little bit out there, but I'd like to try to tell the story of those rentable electric scooters that have taken over the UC campus and surrounding area. I want to explore how the riders act on their scooters, how people react to the riders, where and how the scooters get left when they're not in use, and how the scooters visually fit in on campus.

The origin of this idea was that I wanted to shoot a sort of tour of campus but with some sort of twist, and I thought it'd be a bit fun and silly to have someone riding a scooter as a motif in every photo. Although I've since broadened the idea, I still think there's a lot of potential to capture architectural shots around campus that just happen to have a guy on a scooter plopped in the middle of them. I definitely want to play with height and angle a lot; for example, by shooting from the top of maybe TUC and getting a shot of these massive buildings and architectural details, with a lonely scooter passing through way down on the ground below. Or a shot with the camera at ground level looking down MainStreet, with the photo snapped right as a scooter whizzes by.

To make the story more compelling and add a human element, I'd also like to get shots focusing on the people riding these scooters. I'm honestly not sure what sorts of facial reactions I might see on scooter riders, but I imagine I could get some interesting close-ish-up shots of scooter riders. I'd be looking for some shots with a high shutter speed to freeze everything, and other shots where I use panning to freeze the rider as everything else blurs behind them.

I'd also want to look at how the scooters interact with pedestrians. There are a lot of people with a fair bit of disdain for the scooters, so I'd like to try to get someone's facial reaction as a scooter passes by them. Some scooter riders are less considerate than others, so I'd want to try to capture a moment of a scooter doing something obnoxious, like going way too fast in a crowded area (perhaps using a lower shutter speed, so they're just a blur amidst a still crowd) or getting too close to someone.

I also think there's a lot of potential for shots of scooters without riders. The way that the people who charge the scooters tend to leave them lined up in a row on sidewalks could make for some cool repetition of form shots. The scooters also tend to get haphazardly discarded in non-ideal locations and knocked over, so I imagine I could find a few sad-looking shots of abandoned scooters.

Overall I think there's a lot of potential here to tell a compelling story of how these scooters fit into the campus environment. I really like the amount of flexibility I would have with this. Because scooters are constantly around and are all over campus, I would be able to shoot whenever I have time to spare, allowing me to iterate on ideas and take the time to get the best possible shots.

## Proposal #2: P.G. Sittenfeld

My idea is to capture a slice of a day in the life of Cincinnati city councilmember P.G. Sittenfeld. If I can get it scheduled with him, the goal would be for me to tail him for a day (or, more realistically, a few blocks of time on a couple different days) trying to blend into the background, capturing both public, serious moments as well as private, relaxed moments.

I think this would be a pretty compelling story as P.G. is a very unique person. He's incredibly high-functioning and juggles a ton of responsibilities and a very busy schedule. Some of the most obvious types of shots I would go for are sitting on city council, speaking passionately at a political event, and shaking hands and meeting with important-looking people.

P.G. is also a bit of an eccentric fellow and there are a few unique aspects of his personality that I'd like to capture. P.G. is extremely active documenting his life on social media, so I think it'd be great to catch him in the act of taking a selfie with someone. He's also a big lover of Skyline Chili (I recall in his Twitter bio he used to call himself a "cheese coney connoisseur"), so I'd want to get a shot of him digging into a coney at some point.

Beyond the serious shots and the bits of his personality he shares online, I would also want to peak a bit behind the curtain and show who he is when he's not under a microscope. One shot I'd particularly want is him driving in his car, which for as long as I have known him has always been pretty messy. I'd also want to try to get shots of him during moments of downtime where he looks a bit more relaxed – perhaps reclining in a chair between meetings or something like that. Going in chronological order, the set would probably wrap up with shots of him at home, perhaps wrapping up some work on his laptop or holding his newborn baby.

Overall I think there's a lot of potential shots I could get to tell the story of P.G., and hopefully if I tailed him long enough there would be other good moments that I haven't thought of yet. My biggest concern is whether or not we'll be able to make it work schedule-wise.