

Chapter 10.18
Bicycles, E-Bikes, and Electric Personal
Assistive Mobility Devices

Section:

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10.18.010 Definitions.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Bicycle. Every device propelled by the feet or hands acting upon pedals or cranks and having wheels, any two of which are not less than 14 inches in diameter. A bicycle for purposes of this chapter may have any number of wheels two or more.

Bicycle lane. That portion of a roadway set aside by the governing body of any city, town, village, or county for the exclusive use of bicycles, electric scooters, electric personal assistive mobility devices, or other modes of travel where permitted, absent gasoline power, and so designated by appropriate signs and pavement markings.

The following are designated as bicycle lanes pursuant to Wis. Stats. § 349.23:

North side of E Church Street from N School Street to North Main Street

Bicycle way or public recreation trail. Any path or sidewalk or portion thereof where permitted, off roadway, or property owned or leased by the village where permitted, and designated for use by pedestrians, bicycles, electric scooters, and electric personal assistive mobility devices, or any other human or electric powered recreation, absent gasoline power, by the governing body of any city, town, village, or county.

Carrier. Any device attached to a bicycle, electric scooter, electric personal assistive mobility device designed for carrying articles.

E-bike or electric bicycle. Any bicycle that is equipped with fully operative pedals for propulsion by human power and an electric motor of 750 watts or less and that meets the requirements of any of the following classifications:

A. Class 1 electric bicycle is an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.

B. Class 2 electric bicycle is an electric bicycle that may be powered solely by the motor and is not capable of providing assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.

C. Class 3 electric bicycle is an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 28 miles per hour.

Electric personal assistive mobility device. A self-balancing, two-non-tandem-wheeled device that is designed to transport only one person and that has an electric propulsion system that limits the maximum speed of the device to 15 miles per hour or less. "Segway" is an example of an electric personal assistive mobility device for purposes of this chapter.

Electric scooter. A device weighing less than 100 pounds that has handlebars and an electric motor, is powered solely by the electric motor and human power, and has a maximum speed of not more than 20 miles per hour on a paved level surface when powered solely by the electric motor. "Electric scooter" does not include an electric personal assistive mobility device,

motorcycle, motor bicycle, electric bicycle, or moped.

Operator. Every person who drives or is in actual physical control of a device or vehicle as covered in this chapter.

Owner. A person, other than a lienholder, having the property in or title to a vehicle. The term includes a person entitled to the use and possession of a vehicle subject to a security interest in another person, but excludes a lessee under a lease not intended as security.

Pedestrian. Any person afoot or any person in a wheelchair, either manually or mechanically propelled, or other low-powered, mechanically propelled vehicle designed specifically for use by a physically disabled person.

Right-of-way. The right of one vehicle or pedestrian to proceed in a lawful manner in preference to another vehicle or pedestrian approaching under such circumstances of direction, speed and proximity as to give rise to danger of collision unless one grants precedence to the other.

Roadway. That portion of a highway between the regularly established curb lines or that portion which is improved, designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular travel, excluding the berm or shoulder.

Sidewalk. That portion of a street between the curblines, or the lateral property lines of a roadway, and the adjacent property lines, intended for use by pedestrians.

Vehicle. Every device in, upon or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a highway.

10.18.020 Operating rules.

No person operating a bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device upon any village street, public recreation trail, bicycle path or bicycle way within the village, or on property owned or leased by the village, shall fail to observe any applicable traffic

regulations of the municipality and state or to comply with the following regulations:

A. Operator and passenger. The manufacturer's recommended operator and seating capacity shall not be exceeded. Bicycle operators shall not use a bicycle to carry another person in excess of manufacturer's recommended capacity; however, a bicycle operator may carry or transport a child seated in an auxiliary child's seat or trailer designed for attachment to a bicycle if the seat or trailer is securely attached to the bicycle according to the directions of the manufacturer of the seat or trailer. No child under age 16 may operate a class 3 electrical bicycle and no class 3 electrical bicycle may be operated on any public recreation trail, bicycle path or bicycle way within the city, or on property owned or leased by the village, except upon any village street.

B. Stunt or trick riding. No person operating a bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device shall participate in any trick or stunt riding or racing on any village street, public recreation trail, bicycle path or bicycle way within the village, or on property owned or leased by the village, unless such race or contest is held pursuant to permission granted by the authority having jurisdiction over the highway, or with the express written consent of the village board.

C. Towing. No person riding or operating a bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device shall tow, drag or cause to be drawn behind the bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device, any person on roller skates, coaster sled, or any other type of conveyance not designed to be towed by a bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device.

D. Obedience to traffic control devices. Any person operating a bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal

assistive mobility device shall obey the instructions of all official traffic control devices unless otherwise directed by a law enforcement officer.

E. Stopping, turning and signaling.

1. Signal required. No bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device operator shall suddenly stop, slow down, or turn without giving proper signal, or when the vehicle or device is not equipped with traffic signals by the manufacturer, an arm signal is required by state law for the operation of vehicles or devices on roadways. No person shall turn a bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device into an intersection unless the bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device is in proper position upon the roadway or turn to enter a private roadway or driveway unless the bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device is in proper position on the roadway as required or suddenly turn a bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device upon a roadway unless and until such movement can be made with reasonable safety. If other traffic may be affected by such movement, no person shall so turn any bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device without giving an appropriate signal in the manner provided. Such signal shall be given continually during not less than 50 feet before turning. When given by arm and hand signals, such signals shall be given from left side of bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device in the following manner and shall indicate as follows:

(a) Left turn: hand and arm extended horizontally.

(b) Right turn: hand and arm extended upward.

(c) Stop or decrease speed: hand and arm extended downward.

2. Prohibited turns. Whenever a uniform traffic control device indicates that no right or left turn or U-turn is permitted, no person operating a bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device shall disobey the direction of such device, except after dismounting from the bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device to make such turn, in which event said person shall then obey the regulations, ordinances and laws applicable to pedestrians.

3. Right turns. Every person operating a bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device intending to turn to the right at an intersection, alley, or driveway shall approach the turning point in the line of traffic nearest the right-hand curb of the street.

4. Left turns. Every person operating a bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device intending to turn left at an intersection or to enter an alley or driveway shall approach the point of turning in that lane farthest to the left which is lawfully available to traffic moving in the direction of travel of the bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device about to turn left, unless otherwise directed by official traffic control devices. At intersections where traffic is moving in the opposite direction, if it is not safe for the operator to make a left turn as above-described, he or she shall stay in the right-hand lane and drive to the opposite corner, dismount and walk the bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device to the left-hand corner and proceed. A bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device operator may also make a left turn by driving to the opposite corner and then turning left and driving in a normal driving position.

5. Use of crosswalks. Crosswalks shall be used when walking a bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device through an intersection.

F. Speed. No person shall operate a bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under existing conditions or in excess of any posted speed limit.

G. Clinging to moving vehicles. It shall be unlawful for any person riding upon a bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device to cling or attach themselves to any moving vehicle.

H. Single file riding. Every person when operating a bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device on a public highway shall ride such bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device in a single file and at no time shall ride two or more abreast

I. Racing. No person operating a bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device shall participate in any race, speed or endurance contest with another bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device or with any other vehicle on a city street, public recreation trail, or on property owned or leased by the village, except in connection with a special event upon permission granted by the village board after a report by the chief of police.

J. Removal of hands from handlebars. No person operating a bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device shall remove both hands from handlebars or feet from pedals nor practice any fancy or acrobatic riding or stunts in the operation of said bicycles, e-bikes, electric scooters or electric personal assistive mobility devices.

K. Lights; reflectors. No person may operate a bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device

upon a highway, bicycle lane or bicycle way during hours of darkness unless such bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device is equipped with or the operator is wearing a lamp emitting a white light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the front of such bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device. Such bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device shall also be equipped with a red reflector that has a diameter of at least two inches of surface area on the rear, so mounted and maintained as to be visible from all distances from 50 to 500 feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful upper beams of headlamps on a motor vehicle. A lamp emitting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear may be used in addition to, but not in lieu of, the red reflector.

L. Operation on roadway edge. The rider of a bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter or electric personal assistive mobility device shall ride as near as practicable to within five feet of the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway, except when passing another vehicle or in making a left-hand turn in an intersection.

M. The statutory provisions in Chapter 340 to 348, of Wisconsin State Statutes, relating but not limited to the definitions and regulation of bicycle and motor bicycle traffic, operation, licensing and equipment, are adopted by this section.

10.18.030 Operation on sidewalks.

A. No person shall operate any bicycle, e-bike, electric scooter, or electric personal assistive mobility device on any sidewalk within the city, except bicycles operated by children 10 years or less, or bicycles operated by a responsible person over the age of 10 accompanying a child 10 years or less, or other village vehicle operating within the performance of village

duties. Every person operating a bicycle upon a sidewalk shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and shall exercise due care and give an audible signal when passing a bicycle, electric scooter, or electric personal assistive mobility device rider or a pedestrian proceeding in the same direction.

B. Bicycles, e-bikes, electric scooters, or electric personal assistive mobility devices may be operated on bridge sidewalks but shall maintain the right-of-way to pedestrians and shall exercise due care and give an audible signal when passing a bicycle, electric scooter, or electric personal assistive mobility device rider or a pedestrian proceeding in the same direction. EXCEPTIONS. The term "bicycle" as used herein shall not include what is normally known as a tricycle operated by children under 10 years of age, nor shall it include the 20-inch bicycle when used with 2 training wheels, provided that neither tricycles nor bicycles with training wheels shall be operated upon the city streets or public ways at any time, nor shall tricycles or 20-inch bicycles be ridden or parked on the sidewalk in the downtown area as defined heretofore.

10.18.040 Violations and penalties.

Any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this chapter shall be punished by any of the following methods, subject to the requirements of state law: under Chapter 1.20 and WI SS 340- to 348 of traffic codes.