

Micromobility

Regulation of Motorized Footer Scooters

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November 12, 2020



Direction from Council

Directed the Transportation Commission to work with staff to review and, as deemed appropriate, recommend revisions to City Code regulating the use of motorized foot scooters in Bellevue.



Agenda

1. Current Regulations
2. TC Work Program
3. Discussion



Current Regulations



Motorized Foot Scooter

A device with two or three wheels that has handlebars, a floorboard that can be stood upon while riding, and is powered by an internal combustion engine or electric motor that has a maximum speed of no greater than twenty miles per hour on level ground. (RCW 46.04.336)



Where They May Be Operated

Regulation	State	Local
On roadways	Yes	On roadways with speed limits of 25 MPH or less
In bicycle lanes	Yes	Not specified
On sidewalks	No, except where part of a bikeway	No
On shared-use paths	Yes	Not specified
On unpaved nonmotorized trails	No	No
In city parks	Not specified	No



When They May Be Operated

Regulation	State	Local
Daylight Hours	Yes	Yes
At night (dusk to dawn)	Yes, with approved reflectors	No



How They May Be Operated

Regulation	State	Local
Driver's license	Not required	N/A
Speed limit	15 MPH max. speed on roadways and bike lanes	Not specified
Helmet requirement	No	Yes – All users



Who May Operate Them

Regulation	State	Local
Minimum age to operate	16 years of age	14 years of age
Maximum number of riders	Not specified	One



Implications of Existing Code

- Functionally illegal transportation mode
- Precludes shared mobility option available in neighbor and peer cities
- Regional patchwork of laws not intuitive to public
- Regulatory ambiguity for some devices



BCC 11.48.210

- Responded to community safety, noise concerns
- Council-directed staff work began in 2005
- Ordinance adopted in 2007



Go-Ped gas-powered scooter from early 2000s



TC Work Program



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TC Work Program Elements

1. City Code regulating motorized foot scooters
2. Shared micromobility and e-scooter services



Recommended TC Timeline

City Code Revisions



Shared Micromobility



Policy Priorities

- Safety
- Sustainability
- Equity
- Accessibility
- Innovation
- Consistency
- Engagement
- Education
- Parking*



Potential Differentiation

- By Vehicle Type
- By Geography
- Electric vs. Gas Powered
- Other?

TYPES OF POWERED MICROMOBILITY VEHICLES¹

	Powered Bicycle	Powered Standing Scooter	Powered Seated Scooter	Powered Self-Balancing Board	Powered Non-Self-Balancing Board	Powered Skates
Center column	Y	Y	Y	Possible	N	N
Seat	Y	N	Y	N	N	N
Operable pedals	Y	N	N	N	N	N
Floorboard / foot pegs	Possible	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Self-balancing ²	N	N	N	Y	N	Possible

Source: SAE International



Discussion



Discussion

- Work program – questions, concerns, approve
- Timeline – questions, concerns, approve
- Public hearing – opt to hold or forgo



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