

# **Micromobility Code Amendment**

## *Transportation Commission*

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# Agenda

- Review of Council direction
- Schedule for BCC 11.48.210 amendment
- Goals for BCC 11.48.210 amendment
- Recommended code amendments

→ Questions, Feedback and Discussion on Key Considerations

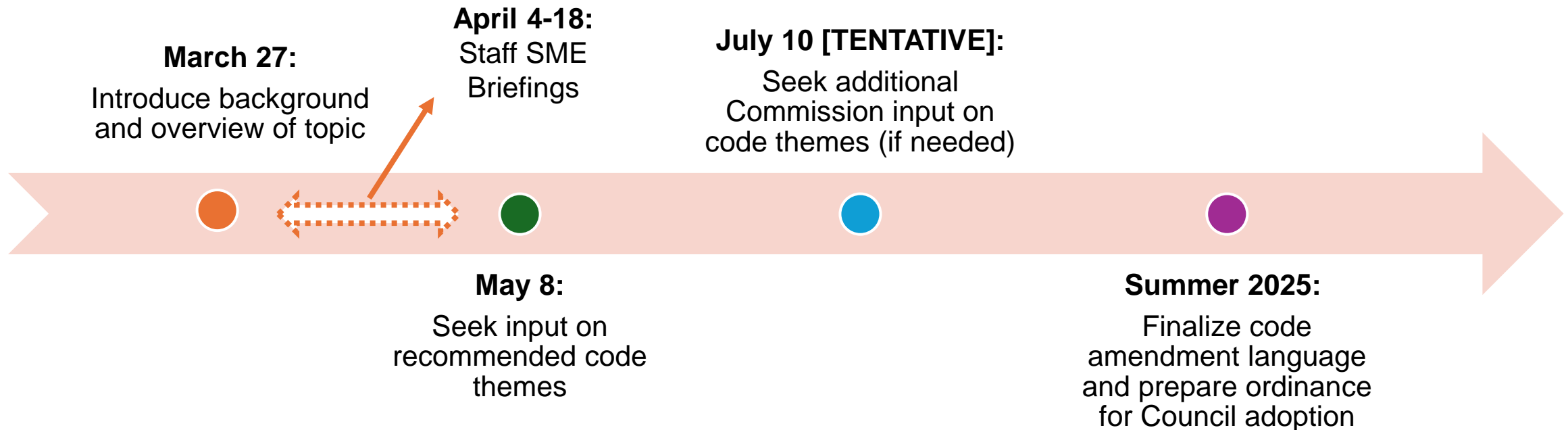
## Council direction for BCC 11.48.210 amendment

On October 19, 2020, the Bellevue City Council voted unanimously to direct 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**” to be more consistent with the Washington State code and the codes of neighboring jurisdictions.

# Schedule for BCC 11.48.210 amendment



**Project Website & FAQ Launch:** <https://bellevuewa.gov/micromobility>



# Goals of BCC 11.48.210 amendment

- **Promoting Public Safety:** Encouraging safe riding practices and providing clarity to law enforcement to address traffic violations.
- **Addressing Community Needs:** Supporting emerging mobility trends including the recent rise in personal scooter use by providing clarity to the public and city staff on where and how these devices are allowed or restricted.
- **Aligning with State Regulations:** Addressing gaps in understanding the use of e-scooters, including where, when, and by whom they can be ridden.
- **Coordinating with Neighboring Jurisdictions:** Ensuring consistency with regulatory frameworks in nearby cities such as Redmond, Seattle, and Kirkland.

# Recommended changes to **DEFINITION** of scooters

Regulation	Current State Law (RCW)	Current Bellevue City Code (BCC)	Recommended Changes To Bellevue City Code (BCC)
<b>Definition of 'Motorized Foot Scooter'</b>	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.	A device with no more than two 10-inch or smaller diameter wheels that has handlebars, is designed to be stood or sat upon by the operator and is powered by an internal combustion engine or electric motor that is capable of propelling the device with or without human propulsion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add clarification to differentiate from other micromobility devices.</li> <li>• Remove reference to gas-powered scooters and 10-inch wheels, as it is outdated language.</li> <li>• Expand wheel quantity to 2 or 3 wheels to allow for evolving device types and greater accessibility.</li> </ul>

**Key:** New additions or proposed changes

# Recommended changes to **WHO** can operate scooters

Who may operate them?	Current State Law (RCW)	Current Bellevue City Code (BCC)	Recommended Changes To Bellevue City Code (BCC)
Min. Age	16 years <sup>2</sup>	14 years	16 years
Max No. of Riders	Not Specified	One	One

Key: New additions or proposed changes

# Recommended changes to **WHEN** scooters can be ridden

When may they be operated?	Current State Law (RCW)	Current Bellevue City Code (BCC)	Recommended Changes To Bellevue City Code (BCC)
Daytime	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed
Anytime (including Nighttime)	Allowed, with reflectors	Not Allowed	Allowed, with reflectors

Key: New additions or proposed changes

# Recommended changes to **HOW** scooters can be operated

How may they be operated?	Current State Law (RCW)	Current Bellevue City Code (BCC)	Recommended Changes To Bellevue City Code (BCC)
<b>Driver's License</b>	Not Required	Not Specified	Not required
<b>Speed Limit</b>	15 mph max speed	Not Specified	15 mph max speed
<b>Helmet</b>	Not Required	Required	Required

Key: New additions or proposed changes

# Recommended changes **WHERE** scooters can be ridden

Where may they be operated?	Current State Law (RCW)	Current Bellevue City Code (BCC)	Recommended Changes To Bellevue City Code (BCC)
<b>On Roadways</b>	Allowed <sup>1</sup>	Allowed only on roadways with speed limits of ≤25 MPH	Allowed
<b>In Bicycle Lanes</b>	Allowed <sup>1</sup>	Not Specified	Allowed
<b>On Sidewalks</b>	Not Allowed, except where there is no safe alternative	Not Allowed	Not allowed, except where there is no safe alternative Potential new provision: Traffic Engineer authority to create "Dismount Zone"
<b>On Paved Trails and Shared Use Paths</b>	Allowed <sup>1</sup>	Not Specified	Allowed, except where signed as prohibited
<b>On Unpaved and Non-motorized Trails</b>	Not Allowed <sup>2</sup>	Not Allowed	Not Allowed
<b>In City Parks</b>	Not Specified <sup>2</sup>	Not Allowed	Allowed, except where signed as prohibited

## Next Steps

Following the Commission's feedback on the recommended amendments to BCC 11.48.210: Motorized Foot Scooters, staff will present the draft code language to the City Council for adoption in Summer 2025.