

City of
Bellevue



Transportation Commission Study Session

DATE: March 27, 2025
TO: Chair Stash and Members of the Transportation Commission
FROM: Akshali Gandhi, Senior Transportation Planner
AGandhi@bellevuewa.gov | 425-452-2069
SUBJECT: Micromobility Code Amendment

DIRECTION REQUESTED

	Action
	Discussion/Direction
X	Information

INTRO

As directed by the City Council in 2020, the Transportation Department is revisiting the topic of micromobility to update Bellevue City Code (BCC) [11.48.210](#): Motorized Foot Scooters, originally added in 2007. Staff are proposing an amendment to the code to reflect current practices and needs to update the code to reflect current times. At the Commission meeting on March 27, staff will present a history of micromobility-related initiatives in Bellevue, along with a project overview, engagement approach and work completed to date, including a [Management Brief](#) submitted to the City Council on February 25, 2025. Additionally, staff will outline the goals for the proposed code amendment and the next steps in the process. No action is requested from the Commission at this time.

BACKGROUND AND INFORMATION

Bellevue City Code (BCC) currently permits very limited use of motorized foot scooters in the public right-of-way, primarily restricted to local roads and residential streets. Recent growth in personal e-scooter use in Bellevue, along with the development of shared micromobility programs in neighboring jurisdictions has increased demand for more micromobility options. This has led to confusion among community members regarding where and how these devices can be ridden. To address these issues, Transportation staff proposes a two-step engagement (with an optional third) with the Commission to review micromobility regulations and update BCC 11.48.210 to reflect this recent growth:

- **Commission Engagement #1 (3/27):** Overview of topic, project goals and approach
- **Commission Engagement #2 (4/24):** Introduction of candidate code change themes, seeking input and discussion.
- **Additional Commission Engagement #3 (6/12 - if needed):** Continued input and discussion on code change themes as needed.

Overarching goals for the code amendment process include:

- **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.
- **Expanding Transportation Options:** Enhancing first-mile/last-mile solutions in coordination with light rail development and Transportation Demand Management (TDM) partnerships.
- **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.

NEXT STEPS

Transportation staff will continue engaging with stakeholders to develop themes for the code amendment. Staff will return to the Transportation Commission next month to introduce candidate code change themes and provide project updates.

Appendices

[Micromobility – Current State and Local Laws Management Brief](#)

[Attachment A: Regulation of Other Micromobility in Bellevue](#)