Folsom City Council
Staff Report

MEETING DATE:	11/10/2026
AGENDA SECTION:	Old Business
SUBJECT:	Ordinance No. 1380 – An Ordinance of the City of Folsom for the Repeal and Re-enactment of Chapter 10.40 of the Folsom Municipal Code Regarding E-bikes and E-conveyances (Second Reading and Adoption)
FROM:	Police Department Parks & Recreation Department

RECOMMENDATION / CITY COUNCIL ACTION

Staff recommends that the City Council conduct the second reading and adoption of Ordinance No. 1380 – An Ordinance of the City of Folsom for the Repeal and Re-enactment of Chapter 10.40 of the Folsom Municipal Code Regarding E-bikes and E-conveyances.

BACKGROUND / ISSUE

In 2013, Ordinance 1175 was adopted by the City Council, adding Chapter 10.40 "Use of Electric Assist Mobility Devices on Class I Bike Trails" to the Folsom Municipal Code (FMC). The intent was to regulate the safe use of electric-assist mobility devices on the City's Class I trails. Since the adoption of that ordinance, the various types of electric conveyances have changed, and as a result, there have been updates to the California Vehicle Code (CVC) to reflect the different types and classifications of electric conveyances.

Additionally, over the past five years, sales of electric conveyances have increased dramatically nationwide. These include e-bikes, e-scooters, e-motorcycles, and other single-rider electric devices, with 2 million units reportedly sold in 2025. The Police Department has experienced a significant rise in calls for service involving e-conveyance riders, particularly juveniles, on roadways, in parking lots, in City parks, and on bike paths. These calls often involve dangerous, threatening, or destructive behavior.

In response to the increase in calls for service related to these vehicles as well as an increase in collisions involving them, Traffic and School Resource Officers implemented education campaigns beginning in 2023 and those continue today. Folsom Police Department has worked closely with the school district to educate children and parents about e-conveyance laws and has utilized social media and traditional media outreach. Additionally, Folsom Police Department has issued warning tickets and traffic citations for violations. Patrol officers have engaged in a proactive enforcement campaign this year, have issued citations, towed e-motorcycles, and made arrests for crimes perpetrated by persons on these vehicles.

Despite ongoing engagement and education efforts by the Folsom Police Department, complaints and reports of unsafe riding and damage to City parks and trails from some e-conveyance users continue. Many cities across the state are implementing local ordinances to address improper riding behaviors and limit the use of e-bikes in city parks.

Two ordinances were brought to City Council for consideration on September 8th including an ordinance to amend the existing Chapter 10.40 of the FMC relating to e-conveyances on Class I trails, and a separate ordinance for a new Chapter 10.44 of the FMC relating to e-bikes and e-conveyances in general. City Council directed staff to revise some of the proposed provisions and return with an updated ordinance combining the two ordinances into one.

On October 27th, staff brought forward an updated ordinance to reflect the City Council direction, and at that meeting City Council introduced and held the first reading of this Ordinance 1380. No changes have been made to the ordinance since the first reading.

POLICY / RULE

Under Section 2.12 of the City Charter, amendments to the Folsom Municipal Code require review and approval by the City Council.

ANALYSIS

Staff proposes a narrowly tailored ordinance to repeal and re-enact Chapter 10.40 of the Folsom Municipal Code to address improper and dangerous riding behaviors, to prohibit riding within City parks if signage indicates riding is prohibited, and to better align the FMC with the California Vehicle Code as it relates to e-bikes and e-conveyances. In drafting this ordinance, Police Department staff consulted with City Parks & Recreation, Trail Planning, Folsom Cordova Unified School District, California State Parks, businesses and a local nonprofit cycling organization. Staff from both the Police and Parks & Recreation Departments presented the draft ordinance to the Parks & Recreation Commission on October 6th and the Friends of Folsom Parkways on October 8th. This collaboration helped ensure the ordinance is well crafted and allows for safe, appropriate e-conveyance use by riders of all ages.

This ordinance allows Class 1, 2 and 3 e-bikes on the City's Class I trails, and allows riding in parks only on paved paths and walkways under a reduced speed limit unless parks are signed prohibiting e-conveyance usage. Staff have reached out to local youth sports leagues that utilize the fields at various parks throughout the city to hear directly the impacts on their teams and

programs resulting from e-bikes. Staff had originally identified Prospector Park and Econome Park as the parks to add signage prohibiting e-bikes and e-conveyances. Staff will continue collaborating with the youth sports leagues and will present an updated list of park sites with the most impact to include as the initial pilot projects to be signed prohibiting e-bikes at the Council meeting presentation. Staff will also be developing a framework and policy for consideration of other parks to prohibit e-bikes in the future, which is anticipated to include coordinating with Police and Fire, reviewing calls for service, monitoring and community feedback. Riding on playgrounds, sports fields and sports courts is prohibited in all parks. This ordinance would also allow for enforcement on private property when signs are posted to notify the public that this chapter of the FMC would be enforced on the property.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

This ordinance is expected to generate minimal revenue from fines assessed for violation of its terms. Enforcement operational costs are already budgeted within normal personnel and equipment expenses.

ATTACHMENT

1. Ordinance No. 1380 - An Ordinance of the City of Folsom for the Repeal and Re-enactment of Chapter 10.40 of the Folsom Municipal Code Regarding E-bikes and E-conveyances.

Submitted,

Adam Green, Chief of Police
Kelly Gonzalez, Parks & Recreation Department Director

Attachment 1

ORDINANCE NO. 1380

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FOLSOM FOR THE REPEAL AND RE-ENACTMENT OF CHAPTER 10.40 OF THE FOLSOM MUNICIPAL CODE REGARDING E- BIKES AND E-CONVEYANCES

WHEREAS, the unsafe operation of electric bicycles and electric conveyances creates a public safety concern; and

WHEREAS, operators and riders of these devices involved in traffic collisions may suffer serious injuries; and

WHEREAS, the State of California Vehicle Code provides authority for local agencies to regulate the use of electric bicycles and similar conveyances on bicycle paths, trails, and certain other property; and

WHEREAS, the City Council now desires to regulate the use of electric bicycles and electric conveyances on public and private property, including parks, trails, property owned by the City, off-street parking facilities, and other public use spaces; and

WHEREAS, the existing Chapter 10.40 of the Folsom Municipal Code, "Use of Electric Assist Mobility Devices on Class I Bike Trails" is outdated and no longer applicable as written, and in need of re-enactment.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Folsom does hereby ordain as follows:

SECTION 1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this ordinance is to re-enact Folsom Municipal Code Chapter 10.40 "USE OF ELECTRIC ASSIST MOBILITY DEVICES ON CLASS I BIKE TRAILS" with a new chapter titled "Electric Bicycles and Electric Conveyances. This ordinance establishes regulations governing the use of electric bicycles and electric conveyances within the City of Folsom and establishes the penalties that may be imposed for the violation of its provisions.

SECTION 2 REPEAL AND RE-ENACTMENT TO CODE

Chapter 10.40, "Use of Electric Assist Mobility Devices on Class I Bike Trails" is hereby repealed and reenacted to read as follows:

Chapter 10.40
ELECTRIC BICYCLES AND ELECTRIC CONVEYANCES

Sections:

10.40.010 Purpose and intent.
10.40.020 Definitions.
10.40.030 Enforcement.
10.40.040 Unsafe operation prohibited.
10.40.050 Operation prohibited within playgrounds, sport courts, and sport fields.
10.40.060 Additional regulations applicable to operation within city parks.
10.40.070 Additional regulations applicable to operation on bicycle paths.
10.40.080 Electric bicycle specifications; tampering prohibited.

10.40.010 Purpose and intent.

This chapter is enacted for the purpose of regulating the operation of electric bicycles and electric conveyances on public and private property, including parks, trails, property owned by the City, off-street parking facilities, and other public use spaces within the City. It is adopted pursuant to the authority reserved to local agencies under the California Vehicle Code and the City's police powers. This chapter is not intended to duplicate, contradict, or regulate any matter covered by the Vehicle Code or other applicable state law fully occupying the field, and shall be construed consistently with state law. Where state law governs the operation or equipment of a device, this chapter supplements state law only to the extent local regulation is authorized.

This chapter is not intended to regulate the use of electrically motorized mobility devices utilized by persons with disabilities as an aid to mobility such as, but not limited to, electric wheelchairs and mobility scooters as defined in California Vehicle Code Section 407 and/or the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), utilized by persons who by reason of physical disability are otherwise unable to move about as a pedestrian.

10.40.020 Definitions.

For the purpose of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates otherwise or requires a different meaning:

“Bicycle path” (“bike path”) has the same definition as set forth in Vehicle Code section 231.5, as may be amended or superseded. A “bicycle path” or “bike path” is a Class I bikeway, as defined in Streets and Highways Code Section 890.4(a).

“Electric conveyance” (“e-conveyance”) includes, but is not limited to, any electrically motorized scooter, electrically motorized board, motorized bicycle or electric motorcycle which is propelled at least in part by electrical energy, or any other device propelled by an electric

motor and designed to transport one or more people. E-conveyances do not include electric vehicles that are intended to be operated on the roadways and registered with the California Department of Motor Vehicles under the California Vehicle Code.

"Electric bicycle" ("e-bike") has the same definition as set forth in Vehicle Code Section 312.5, as may be amended or superseded.

"Electrically motorized board" has the same definition as set forth in Vehicle Code Section 313.5, as may be amended or superseded.

"Electrically motorized scooter" has the same definition as set forth in Vehicle Code Section 407.5, as may be amended or superseded.

"Motorized bicycle" has the same definition as set forth in Vehicle Code Section 406, as may be amended or superseded.

"Electric motorcycle" ("eMoto") has the same definition as set forth in Vehicle Code Section 436.1, as may be amended or superseded.

"Electric personal assistive mobility device" has the same definition as set forth in California Vehicle Code Section 313, as may be amended or superseded.

10.40.030 Enforcement.

A. Administrative enforcement.

1. A violation of this chapter is designated as an administrative violation as defined in Section 1.08.020.

2. A violation of this chapter is designated as a Level A violation, as that term is described in Section 1.09.012. The monetary sanction for violation of this chapter shall be $100 for a first violation, $250 for a second violation of any provision of this chapter within one year, and $500 for each additional violation of any provision of this chapter within one year.

B. Parent/Guardian Liability. Whenever a person charged with violation of this chapter is under the age of 18, the enforcement authority shall provide copies of all notices and orders specified in Title 1 to that person's parent(s) and/or legal guardian. The parent(s) and/or legal guardian of a minor who is charged with a violation of this chapter is a responsible person for purposes of any administrative sanction levied under Chapter 1.09 for violation of this chapter. Any administrative sanction levied for violation of this chapter may be levied against the minor and the parent(s) and/or legal guardian of the minor. The parent(s) and/or legal guardian shall have the right to a hearing and judicial review as set forth in Chapter 1.09. In the event of a conflict between the terms of this section and Section 1.09.028, the terms of this section shall control.

C. Violation as an Infraction. Any violation of this chapter is an infraction, punishable by a fine of $100 for a first violation, $250 for a second violation of any provision of this chapter within one year, and $500 for each additional violation of any provision of this chapter within one year. A minor's parent(s) and/or legal guardian is not subject to criminal liability for the minor's violation of this chapter when the minor is charged with an infraction under this subsection.

D. Remedies Cumulative. The remedies and penalties provided for violation of this chapter are cumulative, alternative, and nonexclusive. The use of one does not prevent the use of any other criminal, civil, or administrative remedy or penalty authorized by or set forth in the Folsom Municipal Code. In addition, none of the penalties or remedies authorized by or set forth in the Folsom Municipal Code shall prevent the city from using any other penalty or remedy available under state law to enforce this chapter or to abate a public nuisance.

E. Separate violations. Where multiple violations have occurred or are occurring, each separate act in violation of this chapter constitutes a separate violation and shall be subject to a separate sanction.

F. Enforcement. The police chief or designee is authorized to enforce this chapter.

G. Enforcement on private property.

1. This chapter applies to private property held open to the public for pedestrian, bicycle, or vehicular use within the city when signs are posted advising the public that this chapter will be enforced on the property.

2. The property owner, the owner's agent, or any person lawfully in possession of the property may contact the Folsom Police Department to enforce violations of this chapter on private property within the city.

10.40.040 Unsafe operation prohibited.

(A) It shall be unlawful and a violation of this chapter for any person to operate an e-bicycle or e-conveyance by doing any of the following on or in any park, bicycle path, public property, or on private property held open to the public for pedestrian, bicycle, or vehicular use:

1. Intentionally swerving or riding around stopped or slow traffic in a manner that creates a hazard or unreasonably obstructs the sightlines or visibility of others.
2. Carrying passengers on an e-bicycle or e-conveyance not intended to carry passengers or carrying more passengers than the number the e-bicycle or e-conveyance is designed or equipped to carry.
3. Not obeying posted signs, signals, or markings.
4. Operating against the direction of traffic, except when passing in a safe manner.

5. Operating at a speed greater than as provided in the Vehicle Code or, where no speed limit is established by the Vehicle Code, at a speed greater than is reasonable or prudent under the conditions then existing, taking into account the safety of persons, vehicles animals, and property.
6. Failing to yield to pedestrians on a walkway, trail or bicycle path.
7. Operating an e-bicycle or e-conveyance while holding and operating a handheld wireless telephone or an electric wireless communications device unless the wireless telephone or electric wireless communications device is specifically designed and configured to allow voice-operated and hands-free operation, and it is used in that manner while riding.
8. When posted, no person shall operate an e-bicycle or e-conveyance within any special event in the city.
9. Stunt and trick riding prohibited.
    a. It shall be unlawful and a violation of this chapter for any person to intentionally lift one or more wheels of an e-bicycle or e-conveyance into the air while riding.
    b. It shall be unlawful and a violation of this chapter for any person to perform or attempt to perform any acrobatic trick or stunt while riding an e-bicycle or e-conveyance.
    c. The prohibitions in subsections (9)(a) and (9)(b) shall not apply within any closed area designated for stunt or trick riding if city signage at the site states that operation of e-bicycles and/or e-conveyances is specifically authorized.

10.40.050 Operation prohibited within playgrounds, sport courts, and sport fields.
It shall be unlawful and a violation of this chapter for any person to operate an e-bicycle or e-conveyance upon any playground, sport court, or sport field within the city.

10.40.060 Additional regulations applicable to operation within city parks.
A. It shall be unlawful and a violation of this chapter to operate an e-bicycle or e-conveyance in any city park except on a paved bicycle path or a paved walkway.

B. It shall be unlawful and a violation of this chapter to operate an e-bicycle or e-conveyance in any city park at a speed greater than 10 miles per hour.

C. The Parks and Recreation Director may prohibit the operation of e-bicycles and/or e-conveyances on marked bicycle paths and paved walkways within any city park on a case-by-case basis when he or she determines that the prohibition supports the health, safety, peace, morals, comfort, and general welfare of those using the park in question.

Signage advising of the prohibition shall be posted at any city park where the operation of e-bicycles and/or e-conveyances is prohibited.

10.40.070 Additional regulations applicable to operation on bicycle paths.

A. It shall be unlawful and a violation of this chapter to operate a bicycle, e-bicycle, electrically motorized scooter, or e-conveyance on any unpaved or landscaped area adjacent to a bicycle path within the city.

B. It shall be unlawful and a violation of this chapter to operate a bicycle, e-bicycle, electrically motorized scooter, or e-conveyance at a speed greater than 15 miles per hour on any bicycle path.

C. It shall be unlawful and a violation of this chapter to operate a motorized bicycle or a golf cart on any bicycle path within the city.

10.40.080 Electric bicycle specifications; tampering prohibited.

A. An electric bicycle shall meet the following criteria:

1. Comply with the equipment and manufacturing requirements for bicycles adopted by the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission (16 C.F.R. 1512.1 et seq.); and
2. Operate in a manner so that the electric motor is disengaged or ceases to function when the brakes are applied or operate in a manner such that the motor is engaged through a switch or mechanism that, when released or deactivated, will cause the electric motor to disengage or cease to function.

B. It shall be unlawful and a violation of this chapter to tamper with or modify an electric bicycle so as to change the speed capability of the device, or otherwise alter, modify, or adjust the motor settings to increase the speed of the device, unless he or she replaces the label indicating the appropriate classification based on the actual speed capability of the device.

SECTION 3 SCOPE

Except as set forth in this Ordinance, all other provisions of the Folsom Municipal Code shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 4 SEVERABILITY

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase in this Ordinance or any part thereof is for any reason held to be unconstitutional, invalid, or ineffective by any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity or effectiveness of the

remaining portions of this Ordinance or any part thereof. The City Council declares that it would have passed each section irrespective of the fact that any one or more section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase be declared unconstitutional, invalid, or ineffective.

SECTION 5 NO MANDATORY DUTY

This Ordinance is not intended to and shall not be construed or given effect in a manner that imposes upon the City or any officer or employee thereof a mandatory duty of care towards persons and property within or without the City, so as to provide a basis of civil liability for damages, except as otherwise imposed by law.

SECTION 6 EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days from and after its passage and adoption, provided it is published in full or in summary within twenty (20) days after its adoption in a newspaper of general circulation in the City.

This ordinance was introduced and the title thereof read at the regular meeting of the City Council on October 27, 2026, and the second reading occurred at the regular meeting of the City Council on November 10, 2026.

On a motion by Councilmember _____ seconded by Councilmember_____, the foregoing ordinance was passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Folsom, State of California, this ____ day of _____, 2026, by the following roll-call vote:

AYES: Councilmember(s):
NOES: Councilmember(s):
ABSENT: Councilmember(s):
ABSTAIN: Councilmember(s):

_____
Justin Raithel, MAYOR

ATTEST:

_____
Christa Freemantle, CITY CLERK

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CITY OF
FOLSOM
DISTINCTIVE BY NATURE