

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-02
CITY OF LATHRUP VILLAGE
OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY OF LATHRUP VILLAGE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY ADDING ARTICLE VII TO CHAPTER 74. TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES, SECTIONS 74-110 THROUGH 74-119, AND BY AMENDING CHAPTER 46. MISCELLANEOUS OFFENSES, PROVISIONS, FORFEITURES AND PENALTIES, ARTICLE XII. PARKS AND RECREATION PROTECTION, SECTION 46-179.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LATHRUP VILLAGE ORDAINS:

PART I. TITLE.

This Ordinance shall be known as the “Electric Bicycles and Personal Mobility Devices Ordinance”.

PART II. ORDINANCE AMENDMENT.

A. Chapter 74. Traffic and Vehicles of the City of Lathrup Village Code of Ordinances is hereby amended by adding a new Article VII to read as follows in its entirety:

ARTICLE VII. ELECTRIC BICYCLES AND PERSONAL MOBILITY DEVICES

Sec. 74-110. Purpose.

The purpose of this Article is to promote the health, safety, and welfare of persons using public sidewalks, bike lanes, parks, pathways, and other public places within the City by regulating the operation of electric bicycles and other personal mobility devices in a manner consistent with the Michigan Vehicle Code. Because of the narrow width of many City sidewalks and the need to protect pedestrian safety, this Article prohibits the operation of electric bicycles and personal mobility devices on sidewalks while clarifying that devices that do not qualify as electric bicycles must meet all applicable motor-vehicle registration, licensing, and equipment requirements when operated on roadways. This Article also establishes minimum sidewalk and pathway conduct rules for any bicycle (including a conventional pedal bicycle) and any personal mobility device, so that riders yield to pedestrians and operate carefully when sharing sidewalks and pathways with people on foot. This Article further requires City registration of electric bicycles so that devices operated in the City can be identified.

Sec. 74-111. Definitions.

As used in this Article, the following terms shall have the meanings given:

Electric bicycle or e-bike means a device that satisfies all of the following (MCL 257.13e):

- (1) Equipped with a seat or saddle for the rider;
- (2) Fully operable pedals for human propulsion;
- (3) An electric motor of not greater than 750 watts; and
- (4) Falls within one of the following classes:
 - a. Class 1 electric bicycle means an electric bicycle equipped with an electric motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that disengages or ceases to function when the electric bicycle reaches a speed of 20 miles per hour.
 - b. Class 2 electric bicycle means an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that propels the electric bicycle to a speed of no more than 20 miles per hour, whether the rider is pedaling or not (including by throttle or other exclusive motor propulsion that does not require pedaling), and that disengages or ceases to function when the brakes are applied.
 - c. Class 3 electric bicycle means an electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that disengages or ceases to function when the electric bicycle reaches a speed of 28 miles per hour.

Electric personal mobility device or personal mobility device means any wheeled or board-type device powered wholly or partially by an electric motor and designed primarily for personal transportation of a single rider, including but not limited to electric scooters (stand-up or sit-down), hoverboards, electric one-wheel boards or unicycles, electric skateboards, and similar devices, but excluding electric bicycles as defined in this section and excluding devices that qualify as motor vehicles, mopeds, or off-road vehicles under the Michigan Vehicle Code.

Bicycle means a device propelled primarily by human power upon which a person may ride, having two tandem wheels, and includes an electric bicycle as defined in this section as well as a conventional pedal bicycle that is not an electric bicycle.

Personal mobility device (for sidewalk and pathway conduct under Sec. 74-111A) means an electric personal mobility device as defined in this section and also includes a non-motorized scooter, skateboard, or similar wheeled or board-type device designed primarily for personal transportation of a single rider.

Motor vehicle (for purposes of this Article) includes any electric dirt bike, e-moto, high-powered throttle device, or similar machine that does not meet the definition of an electric bicycle (including devices that lack fully operable pedals, exceed 750 watts, or are capable of speeds or performance outside the Class 1–3 limits). Such devices are subject to registration, operator licensing, insurance, and equipment requirements under state law when operated on a roadway.

Sec. 74-111A. Sidewalk and pathway conduct — all bicycles and personal mobility devices.

Whenever any bicycle or personal mobility device (motorized or not) is operated on a City sidewalk or on a designated park pathway, the operator shall:

- (a) Yield the right-of-way to pedestrians;
- (b) Give an audible signal before overtaking and passing a pedestrian;
- (c) Operate at a reasonably prudent speed under the conditions then existing, with due regard for pedestrians and the narrow width of many City sidewalks;
- (d) Not operate in a careless or reckless manner or in a manner that endangers persons or property.

This section does not authorize sidewalk operation where this Article or other law prohibits it. It establishes conduct rules when sidewalk or pathway operation is otherwise lawful (including walking a device or crossing a driveway or roadway).

Sec. 74-112. Operation of electric bicycles.

(a) Electric bicycles may be operated on roadways and in bike lanes where conventional bicycles are permitted, subject to all applicable traffic laws of the Michigan Vehicle Code and this Code.

(b) Electric bicycles may be operated upon sidewalks adjacent to Southfield Road, Twelve Mile Road, Eleven Mile Road, Lincoln Drive and Evergreen Road as follows:

1. By a person 18 years of age or older; or
2. By a person under 18 years of age when accompanied by an adult, at a reasonably prudent speed not greater than a normal walking or pedestrian pace, while yielding the right-of-way to pedestrians. A person under 14 years of age shall not operate a Class 3 electric bicycle under this subsection, even when accompanied by an adult.

(c) A person under 14 years of age shall not operate a Class 3 electric bicycle.

(d) A person under 18 years of age operating any Class electric bicycle shall wear a properly fitted and fastened bicycle helmet that meets applicable federal safety standards.

(e) Operators of electric bicycles shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians, give an audible signal before overtaking and passing a pedestrian, and operate at a reasonable and prudent speed under the conditions then existing.

(f) No person shall operate an electric bicycle upon any sidewalk within the City, except those identified in Sec. 74-112(b). An electric bicycle may be walked (not ridden) across a sidewalk or used only as necessary to cross a roadway or driveway, and then only

while yielding to all pedestrians and operating at a speed no greater than a normal walking pace.

(g) Electric bicycles may be operated on designated park pathways only if the pathway is posted as open to such use or if no prohibition is posted, and then only at a speed not exceeding 15 miles per hour (or any lower posted limit) while yielding to pedestrians and other users.

(h) No person shall operate an electric bicycle in a careless or reckless manner.

Sec. 74-113. Operation of electric personal mobility devices.

(a) No person shall operate an electric personal mobility device upon any sidewalk within the City, except as provided herein:

1. An electric personal mobility device may be operated by a person under 18 years of age upon any sidewalk in the City at a reasonably prudent speed when accompanied by an adult.

2. An electric personal mobility device may be operated by a person 18 years or older upon sidewalks adjacent to Southfield Road, Twelve Mile Road, Eleven Mile Road, Lincoln Drive and Evergreen Road.

3. An electric personal mobility device may also be operated by a person under 18 years of age upon the arterial sidewalks identified in Sec. 74-113(a)(2) when accompanied by an adult, at a reasonably prudent speed not greater than a normal walking or pedestrian pace, while yielding the right-of-way to pedestrians. (Subsection (a)(1) already permits under-18 operation with an adult on those sidewalks; this subsection is included for clarity and parity with Sec. 74-112(b).)

(b) Electric personal mobility devices may be operated on roadways and in bike lanes where conventional bicycles are permitted, subject to all applicable traffic laws and only at a reasonable and safe speed under the conditions then existing.

(c) Electric personal mobility devices may be operated on designated park pathways only if the pathway is posted as open to such use or if no prohibition is posted, and then only subject to the following:

(1) Yield the right-of-way to pedestrians at all times and give an audible warning when overtaking;

(2) Operate at a reasonable and safe speed not to exceed 15 miles per hour (or any lower posted limit);

(3) Ride single-file when more than one device is present and keep to the right when practicable;

(4) Do not carry more passengers than the device is designed to carry (generally one person); and

(5) Keep at least one hand on any handlebars if the device is so equipped.

(d) The City may prohibit operation of electric personal mobility devices in designated areas by posted signs.

(e) A person under 18 years of age operating an electric personal mobility device shall wear a properly fitted and fastened bicycle helmet that meets applicable federal safety standards.

(f) No person shall operate any electric personal mobility device in a careless or reckless manner or in a manner that endangers persons or property.

Sec. 74-114. Electric dirt bikes, e-motos, and non-qualifying devices.

Any device that does not meet the definition of an electric bicycle under Sec. 74-111 (including many electric dirt bikes and similar high-performance machines) is a motor vehicle or off-road vehicle under state law. Such devices may not be operated on any City roadway, sidewalk, park pathway, or other public place unless the device and operator fully comply with all applicable Michigan registration, licensing, insurance, equipment, and operational requirements for motor vehicles or off-road vehicles. Operation of an unregistered or non-compliant device on a roadway is prohibited and may be enforced under both this Article and state law.

Sec. 74-115. Parks and public places.

In addition to the rules set forth in this Article, no person shall operate any motorized device (including electric bicycles and personal mobility devices) in a City park in a manner that damages park property, creates a nuisance, or violates posted park rules. The City may designate specific park pathways as non-motorized or post lower speed limits.

Sec. 74-115A. Registration of electric bicycles.

(a) No person shall operate an electric bicycle upon any City roadway, sidewalk, bike lane, park pathway, or other public place unless the electric bicycle is registered with the City in accordance with this section and any administrative rules adopted by the City Administrator to implement this section.

(b) Registration fees, multi-year registration options, and related administrative charges shall be as set forth in the City's annually adopted fee schedule, or as otherwise established by resolution of the City Council. The dollar amount of the registration fee is not fixed by this Ordinance.

(c) Upon registration, the City shall issue a registration credential (sticker, tag, plate, or other identifier) that shall be affixed to the electric bicycle in the manner prescribed by the City and kept visible while the electric bicycle is operated in the City.

(d) Operating an electric bicycle that is not registered as required by this section, or operating an electric bicycle without the required registration credential affixed as prescribed, is a municipal civil infraction punishable by a fine of One Hundred and 00/100 Dollars (\$100.00) for a first offense, plus costs of prosecution and other authorized costs. A subsequent offense may be punished under Sec. 74-117(a).

(e) This section does not apply to a device that is a motor vehicle or off-road vehicle under Sec. 74-114 and is instead subject to Michigan registration requirements.

Sec. 74-116. Parental or guardian responsibility.

A parent or guardian shall not knowingly permit a minor child to violate any provision of this Article.

Sec. 74-117. Penalties.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a violation of this Article is a municipal civil infraction, punishable by a fine of not more than \$100.00 for a first offense and not more than \$250.00 for a subsequent offense, plus costs of prosecution and other authorized costs.

(b) Operating an electric bicycle or personal mobility device in a careless or reckless manner that endangers persons or property, or operating a non-compliant motor vehicle or device on a roadway in violation of Sec. 74-114, may be prosecuted as a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$500.00 and/or imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or both, consistent with the general penalty provisions of this Code and applicable state law.

Sec. 74-118. Impoundment.

(a) A police officer may impound an electric bicycle, electric personal mobility device, or other device regulated by this Article when the officer has reasonable cause to believe that the device has been operated in violation of this Article and any of the following applies:

(1) The violation involves careless or reckless operation that endangers persons or property;

(2) The device is a non-qualifying motor vehicle or device being operated on a roadway in violation of Sec. 74-114;

(3) The operator is a minor and the parent or guardian has previously been notified of a violation involving the same or a similar device; or

(4) The operator has been cited for a prior violation of this Article within the preceding 12 months.

(b) An impounded device shall be stored by the City or its designated agent. The owner or person entitled to possession may redeem the device upon payment of the applicable storage and administrative fees and presentation of proof of ownership, unless the device is being held as evidence or is subject to forfeiture under other applicable law.

(c) The procedures for notice, storage, redemption, and disposal of an unclaimed device shall be consistent with the procedures applicable to impounded vehicles under this Code and state law, to the extent practicable.

Sec. 74-119. Conflict with state law.

Nothing in this Article shall be construed to conflict with or supersede the Michigan Vehicle Code. In the event of a conflict, state law shall control. This Article is intended to exercise the local regulatory authority granted under MCL 257.660 and related provisions.

B. Chapter 46. Miscellaneous Offenses, Provisions, Forfeitures and Penalties, Article XII. Parks and Recreation Protection, Section 46-179. Operation and parking of vehicles of the City of Lathrup Village Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to read as follows in its entirety:

Sec. 46-179. Operation and parking of vehicles.

It shall be unlawful for any person to do any of the following within a city park:

(a) Drive any vehicle in excess of fifteen (15) miles per hour;

(b) Park a vehicle anywhere except in a designated parking area, including setup and cleanup;

(c) Park a vehicle when the operator or a passenger is not making active use of the park, or allow a vehicle to remain within a park when the operator or passenger has left the park;

(d) Leave a vehicle standing or parked during hours when the park is closed;

(e) Park any type of trailer at any time, except for the purpose of conducting official city business;

(f) Ride a bicycle without reasonable regard to the safety of others, including without complying with Sec. 74-111A when operating on a park pathway;

(g) Drive any vehicle on any area except the park roads or parking areas designated as open to public travel or such areas as may on occasion be specifically designated by signs as temporary driving areas;

(h) If any vehicle or trailer is parked or left standing in violation of the rules set forth in this subsection, the city may immediately remove such vehicle or trailer and impound the same, and thereafter process such vehicle or trailer in accordance with applicable provisions of law or ordinance;

(i) Operate an electric bicycle or electric personal mobility device in violation of Chapter 74, Article VII of this Code; or

(j) Subsections (b) through (g) and (i) shall not apply to city personnel engaged in official business.

PART III. REPEALER.

This ordinance repeals any ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith.

PART IV. SEVERABILITY.

If any section, subsection, clause, phrase, or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate and distinct provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions.

PART V. SAVINGS.

All proceedings pending and all rights and liabilities existing, acquired, or incurred at the time this ordinance takes effect are saved and may be consummated according to the law in force when they commenced.

PART VI. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance shall be published in the manner required by law and shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its publication. A copy of the ordinance shall also be made available for public use and inspection in the office of the City Clerk.

MADE, PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF LATHRUP VILLAGE, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2026.

Alisa Emanuel, City Clerk

Date of Introduction: _____, 2026

Date of Adoption: _____, 2026

Date of Publication of Notice of Adoption: _____, 2026