

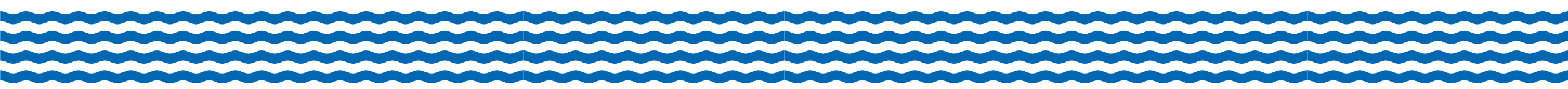
AB 6772 E-Motorcycle Regulations

September 16, 2025



Agenda

- Background
- Ordinance No. 25C-24
- Next Steps



Background

- Mercer Island has seen an increase in usage of e-motorcycles and e-dirt bikes, particularly among unlicensed individuals under the age of 16.
- Riders often demonstrate unsafe riding behaviors, creating a danger to themselves and others.
- The proposed ordinance would establish that operation of e-motorcycles/e-dirt bikes by unlicensed individuals under the age of 16 is unlawful in the public right-of-way.
- The proposed ordinance also prohibits any rider from operating an e-motorcycle/e-dirt bikes on any sidewalk, pedestrian path, and within public parks.

Current Enforcement

- Currently, MIPD will attempt to contact youth riding e-motorcycles/e-dirt bikes, call their parents, and require the parents to pick up their child and the vehicle.
- The School Resource Officer will call parents when an e-motorcycle is parked at Islander Middle School or MIHS.
- MIPD reminds the parents of the dangers of these types of vehicles and informs the child and the parent of the regulations around their use.

Barriers to Enforcement

- There are two issues limiting the ability of MIPD to take additional enforcement action.
- MIPD is limited in what enforcement actions it can take. There is an enforcement gap between what types of violations the Mercer Island Municipal Court can process and the age of the riders.
- In addition, State laws have not kept up with the changing technology and work needs to be done to address the inconsistencies.



Ordinance No. 25C-24



Ordinance No. 25C-24

The proposed ordinance would make the following changes to Title 10 MICC:

- Adopts a definition for electric motorcycles.
- Prohibits the operation of an e-motorcycle by any person who does not have a valid driver's license with a motorcycle endorsement.
- Prohibits the operation of any e-motorcycle that does not display a valid license plate.
- Prohibits the operation of e-motorcycles on any sidewalk, pedestrian path, and within public parks.
- Establishes the ability for MIPD to impound an e-motorcycle.

Ordinance No. 25C-24

Violations of the regulations, established under the proposed ordinance, are civil infractions, subject to the following penalties.

- First offense: \$250
- Second offense: \$500
- Third and subsequent offenses: \$750 and possible referral for criminal citation under RCW 46.20.005 Driving without a license

Ordinance No. 25C-24

10.04.170 – Electric motorcycle

Electric motorcycle means a motorcycle, as defined by [RCW 46.04.330](#), which is powered by an electric motor and:

1. Is not equipped with fully operable pedals capable of propelling it. Foot pegs are not considered pedals; or
2. Has a motor with a power output that exceeds 750 watts; or
3. Has a motor that continues to provide assistance when the vehicle reaches the speed of twenty-eight miles per hour.



Talaria Sting Electric Dirt Bike
6,000W motor; top speed 47mph.



EK X21 Off Road E-Bike
3,000W motor; top speed of 45mph.



TUTTIO ARC-I Electric Dirt Bike
*750W motor; top speed of 22mph;
no pedals.*



Modified Class 2 E-Bike
8,000W motor; top speed of 47mph.



Harley Davidson
LiveWire One Electric Motorcycle



Zero Motorcycle
DSR / X Electric Motorcycle

Changes from First Reading

10.04.170 – Electric motorcycle

Electric motorcycle means a motorcycle, as defined by RCW 46.04.330, which is powered ~~solely by electricity~~ by an electric motor and:

1. 1. Is not equipped with fully operable pedals capable of propelling it. Foot pegs are not considered pedals; or
2. 2. Has a motor with a power output that exceeds 750 watts; or is ~~capable of traveling over 28 mph with motor assistance.~~
3. 3. Has a motor that continues to provide assistance when the vehicle reaches the speed of twenty-eight miles per hour.

Changes from First Reading

10.53.010 Restrictions on the operation of electric motorcycles.

~~1. No person under the age of 16 may operate an electric motorcycle.~~

~~2. No person may operate an electric motorcycle that is not registered with the Washington State Department of Licensing and does not have a valid license plate.~~

1. No person may operate an electric motorcycle that is not displaying a valid license plate issued by a state or comparable government agency.

2. No person without a valid driver's license with a motorcycle endorsement may operate an electric motorcycle.

3. To be operated on a public street or road, an electric motorcycle must meet the requirements of RCW 46.61.705.

Changes from First Reading

10.53.010 Restrictions on the operation of electric motorcycles

4. Any person operating or riding an electric motorcycle must wear a motorcycle helmet ...



Changes from First Reading

9.30.150 - Vehicles.

It is unlawful to ride or drive any bicycle, motor vehicle, motorcycle, [electric motorcycle as defined in MICC Ch. 10.04,](#) or motor-driven cycle over or through any park except along and upon the public roads, streets or other designated areas therein or to operate any vehicle at a speed in excess of the posted speed limit. Both the operator or driver of such motor vehicle, motorcycle, [electric motorcycle as defined in MICC Ch. 10.04,](#) or motor-driven cycle and such vehicle shall be properly licensed if required by state law [or City of Mercer Island ordinance.](#)

Ordinance No. 25C-24

- While the proposed ordinance does not fully address the enforcement issues, the code amendments provide MIPD with a tool to assist with reducing the number of e-motorcycles/e-dirt bikes being operated unlawfully on Mercer Island and assigns a monetary penalty.
- Impoundment and retrieval, as well as the civil infractions, serve as educational mechanisms to alert parents and riders of the dangers of these vehicles.

Next Steps



Enforcement & Impoundment

- If adopted, the ordinance will go into effect on January 1, 2026.
- Staff will use this time to establish the process for impoundment of e-motorcycles/e-dirt bikes and make any changes needed to facilitate this process.
- This work may include amending Chapter 10.22 MICC Impounding and the City's Fee Schedule to establish set fees for impoundment.
- Staff will also determine where impounded e-motorcycles/e-dirt bikes will be stored, as well as the process to retrieve an impounded vehicle.

Anticipated Additional Regulatory Actions

- As this issue continues to develop, staff will update the regulations to meet emerging needs and provide reports on the effectiveness of established regulations.
- Staff will return to the City Council with a separate ordinance to establish regulations for e-bikes.
- Staff are evaluating a parental responsibility clause that would shift the burden of a violation from the minor who committed the act to their parent, guardian, or the owner of the e-motorcycle.

Communications

- Staff will continue the comprehensive outreach campaign and will update the community upon passage of this ordinance.
- This campaign will include:
 - Coordination with the Mercer Island School District
 - Outreach to parents
 - Updates to the existing E-Bike Safety webpage
 - Social media posts
 - Communications in the MI Weekly

Strategy with State Legislature

- City staff are working with AWC and regional partners to see if there is potential for State legislative action.
- AWC, in collaboration with City staff, will host a call to discuss e-motorcycles/e-dirt bikes with regional partners.
- Getting a bill through the legislature often take multiple years and often requires several smaller bills that build on each other.
- Staff have determined the best place to start is an updated/modern definition of e-motorcycles/e-dirt bikes.

Questions?

