



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

PRC 26-03
February 5, 2026
Regular Business

AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

TITLE:	PRC 26-03: Planning Update for E-Bike Regulations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Receive report. No action necessary.	<input type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Recommendation

STAFF:	Amelia Tjaden, Management Analyst Ryan Daly, Recreation Manager Sam Harb, Parks Operation Manager
EXHIBITS:	N/a

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide an update on the next steps toward the development of e-bike regulations in Mercer Island parks and open spaces.

- Mercer Island has seen an increase in usage of e-bikes, electric scooters (e-scooters), and electric motorcycles/electric dirt bikes (e-motorcycles/e-dirt bikes) over the past two years.
- In November 2025, staff conducted an initial study session with the PRC and the OSCT to discuss regulations for e-bikes and e-scooters in parks and open spaces on the Island ([PRC 25-17](#)). The PRC and OSCT met again in January 2026 ([PRC 26-01](#)) to review a draft policy statement.
- Discussion at the January meeting conveyed the PRC's desire for more information to be provided and that staff engage the community more broadly on potential regulations before making a recommendation.
- Staff will return to the PRC and the OSCT at their regularly scheduled meetings in April and present a community engagement and information gathering plan that will include numerous touchpoints with the community through Spring and Summer 2026.
- Staff will return in Fall 2026 to present findings from the community engagement efforts and other information gathered to resume the development of e-bike regulations in parks and open spaces.

BACKGROUND

Mercer Island has seen an increase in usage of electric bikes (e-bikes), electric scooters (e-scooters), and electric motorcycles/electric dirt bikes (e-motorcycles/e-dirt bikes) over the past two years. Many of the riders are 12-15 years of age and often demonstrate unsafe riding behaviors, creating a danger to themselves and others.

On May 2025, the City Council amended the 2025-2026 Work Plan to include the development of an ordinance regulating the operation of e-bikes and e-motorcycles on the Island ([AB 6688](#)). The following actions have been taken thus far:

- In September 2025, the Mercer Island City Council adopted Ordinance No. 25C-24 establishing regulations for e-motorcycles ([AB 6772](#)).
- In November 2025, staff conducted a study session with the PRC and the OSCT to discuss regulations for e-bikes and e-scooters in parks and open spaces on the Island ([PRC 25-17](#)).
- In January 2026 ([PRC 26-01](#)), staff conducted a study session with the PRC and the OSCT to discuss a proposed policy for e-bike regulations in parks and open spaces. As a result of this meeting, the PRC

and the OSCT requested more information be provided and a need for staff to engage further with the community to understand potential regulations and impacts.

NEXT STEPS

Staff will return to the PRC and the OSCT at their regularly scheduled meetings in April and present a community engagement plan that will include touchpoints with the community through Spring and Summer 2026. During this meeting staff will solicit commission feedback on the engagement plan and seek additional input on key questions which would help the PRC to better understand impacts of potential regulations.

Staff will return in Fall 2026 to present findings from the community engagement efforts and additional information gathered and resume the development of e-bike regulations in parks and open spaces process.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Receive report. No action necessary.