

AGENDA NOTE

Old Business # 7

MEETING DATE: February 9, 2026

PERSON PLACING ITEM ON AGENDA: Bonnie Unruh, Police Chief

AGENDA TOPIC: E-Bike Ordinance – Second Reading

EXPLANATION OF TOPIC: The City staff and City attorney have been working on an amended E-Bike Ordinance to address the large increase in e-bike users in the community, and to improve public safety.

MATERIALS ATTACHED AS SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS: E-Bike Ordinance

POSSIBLE COURSES OF ACTION: To approve or not approve second reading of E-Bike Ordinance

SUGGESTED MOTION: Motion by _____, supported by _____ to approve the E-Bike Ordinance as written.

ORDINANCE NO. __

CITY OF SOUTH LYON
OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 58 OF THE CITY OF
SOUTH LYON CODE OF ORDINANCES "OFFENSES AND
MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS", ARTICLE II "OFFENSES
AGAINST PUBLIC PEACE", CHAPTER 62 OF THE CITY OF
SOUTH LYON CODE OF ORDINANCES "PARKS AND
RECREATION", ARTICLE III "USE OF PUBLIC PARKS" AND
CHAPTER 90 "TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES", ARTICLE IV
"BICYCLES" TO REGULATE THE USE OF ELECTRIC
BICYCLES AND ELECTRIC SKATEBOARDS WITHIN THE
CITY

THE CITY OF SOUTH LYON ORDAINS:

PART I. AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 58 OFFENSES AND MISCELLANEOUS
PROVISIONS

Article II, Section 58-124. "Roller skates, roller blades, street skates and skateboards" is amended as follows:

Sec. 58-124. - Roller skates, rollerblades, street skates, skateboards, electric skateboards, and electric scooters.

The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this division, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

(a) Definitions. The following words, terms and phrases, when used in this division, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Electric skateboard and electric scooter means a wheeled device that has a floorboard designed to be stood upon when riding that is no more than 60 inches long and 18 inches wide, is designed to transport only 1 person at a time, has an electronic propulsion system with power of no more than 2,500 watts, and has a maximum speed on a paved level surface of no more than 25 miles per hour. An electric skateboard or electric scooter may have handlebars and, in addition to having an electrical propulsion system with power of no more than 2,500 watts, may be designed to also be powered by human propulsion.

Roller skates, rollerblades, and street skates means a set or series of small wheels on the bottom of a shoe or a frame that would attach to a shoe which are used for gliding on a surface such as a floor or sidewalk, etc.

Skateboards means an item consisting of a short board on small wheels at each end used for coasting and/or for performing athletic stunts.

To *roller skate* means to skate on any type of roller skates, rollerblades or street skates.

(b) *Use regulated.* It shall be unlawful for any person to roller skate, use a skateboard, electric skateboard, or electric scooter within the city without complying with the terms of this section.

(c) *Riding on certain devices or structures.* It shall be unlawful to roller skate or ride on a skateboard, electric skateboard and electric scooter on any bench, table, planter wall, retaining wall or other device or structure which is not intended for pedestrian or vehicle traffic, or to jump or step on or off such devices or structures in the process of roller skating or riding a skateboard, electric skateboard or electric scooter. Riding of electric skateboards and electric scooters shall be prohibited in the central and historic districts.

(d) *Riding prohibited where posted.* The city manager is hereby authorized to erect signs on any publicly owned parking area, street, sidewalk, parking structure, parking lot, or other public property prohibiting roller skating, the riding of skateboards or electric skateboards or electric scooters thereon. It shall be unlawful to roller skate, ride a skateboard, electric skateboard or electric scooter on any such posted parking area, street, sidewalk, parking structure, parking lot or other public property.

(e) *Reckless or dangerous skating or riding.* It shall be unlawful for any person to roller skate, ride a skateboard, electric skateboard or electric scooter on any sidewalk or other paved surface intended for pedestrians in a reckless or careless manner, or in a manner which is likely to result in injury or harm to any person or property.

(f) *Riding on private property without permission.* It shall be unlawful for any person to roller skate, ride a skateboard, electric skateboard or electric scooter on private property that has been posted no skateboarding.

(g) *Penalty for violation of section.* Any person who violates any of the provision of this division shall be responsible for a municipal civil infraction.

PART II. AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 62 PARKS AND RECREATION

Article III, Section 62-61. "Definitions" is amended to add the following definition:

Sec. 62-61 Definitions.

Bicycle means a device propelled by human power upon which a person may ride, having either 2 or 3 wheels in tandem or tricycle arrangement, all of which are over 14 inches in diameter.

Dirt bike means a motor driven (either gas or electric power) off-road recreational vehicle capable of cross-country travel without benefit of a road or trail, on or immediately over land, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, or other natural terrain.

Electric bicycle means a device upon which an individual may ride that satisfies all of the following:

- (a) The device is equipped with all of the following:
 - (i) A seat or saddle for use by the rider.
 - (ii) Fully operable pedals for human propulsion.
 - (iii) An electric motor of not greater than 750 watts.
 - (b) The device falls within 1 of the following categories:
 - (i) *Class 1 electric bicycle* means an electric bicycle that is 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.
 - (ii) *Class 2 electric bicycle* means an electric bicycle that is 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, and that disengages or ceases to function when the brakes are applied.
 - (iii) *Class 3 electric bicycle* means an electric bicycle that is 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 bicycle does not include an e-moto bicycle, which is a high-powered moped like device (has an engine of 100ccs or less with no gear shifting with a maximum speed of 30 mph) or motorcycle like device.

Electric personal assistive mobility device means a self-balancing non-tandem 2-wheeled device, designed to transport only 1 person at a time having an electric propulsion system with average power of 750 watts or 1 horsepower and a maximum speed on a paved surface of not more than 15 miles per hour.

Electric skateboard and *electric scooter* mean a wheeled device that has a floorboard designed to be stood upon when riding that is no more than 60 inches long and 18 inches wide, is designed to transport only 1 person at a time, has an electronic propulsion system with power of no more than 2,500 watts, and has a maximum speed on a paved level surface of no more than 25 miles per hour. An electric skateboard or electric scooter may have handlebars and, in addition to having an electrical propulsion system with power of no more than 2,500 watts, may be designed to also be powered by human propulsion.

Golf cart means a vehicle (either gas or electric power) designed for transportation while playing the game of golf.

Article III, Section 62-63 "Use and parking of vehicles", is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 62-63. - Use and parking of vehicles, electric bicycles, electric skateboards, and electric scooters.

Unlawful:

- (a) It shall be unlawful to drive or operate a vehicle in areas other than designated roadways and parking areas existing, maintained, and designated as such.
- (b) It shall also be unlawful for any vehicle to exceed posted speed limits within such a park.
- (c) It shall be unlawful to operate a dirt bike within a city park, park grounds or on a linear trail that has an asphalt, crushed limestone, or similar surface.

Lawful:

- (d) It shall be lawful to operate an electric skateboard/scooter on a linear trail that has an asphalt, crushed limestone, or similar surface. Riders of electric skateboards/scooters shall yield to the right of way to pedestrians, bicycles, and other human-powered conveyances.
- (e) It shall be lawful to operate a class 1, class 2 or class 3 electric bicycle on a linear trail that has an asphalt, crushed limestone, or similar surface. Riders of electric bicycles shall yield to the right of way to pedestrians, bicycles, and other human-powered conveyances. A class 3 electric bicycle shall not be operated by an individual less than 14 years of age. An individual less than 14 years of age may ride as a passenger on a class 3 electric vehicle that is designed to accommodate passengers. An individual shall not operate an electric bicycle on a trail that is specifically designed as nonmotorized and that has a natural surface tread that is made by clearing and grading of native soil and has no added hard surfacing materials. An individual less than 18 years of age who operates or rides as a passenger on a class 3 electric bicycle shall wear a properly fitted and fastened bicycle helmet that meets federal standards established under federal law, including standards adopted by the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission or the American Society for Testing and Materials.
- (f) Violations of subsections (a)- (d) shall be civil infractions. Violations of subsection (e) shall be a misdemeanor.

Article III, 62-74 "Trailway regulations and prohibitions" shall be amended to add a new subsection (j) for electric bicycles, electric skateboards, dirt bikes, and golf carts to read as follows:

Sec. 62-74. - Trailway regulations and prohibitions

(a)-(i) Unchanged

- (j) *Electric bicycles* No person shall operate an electric bicycle on a trailway in a careless or reckless manner and shall not operate an electric bicycle in excess of fifteen (15) miles per hour. A person who violates this subsection is responsible for a misdemeanor.
- (k) *Electric skateboard and scooter* No person shall operate an electric skateboard and electric scooter on a trailway in a careless or reckless manner in excess of fifteen (15) miles per hour. A person who violates this subsection is responsible for a municipal civil infraction.

(l) Dirt bikes and *Golf cart*. No person shall operate a dirt bike or a golf cart in or upon a trailway unless they are authorized by the City. A person who violates this subsection is responsible for a municipal civil infraction.

(m) Electric *personal assistive mobility device*. Nothing in this article shall prohibit a person from using an electric personal mobility device related to a disability, on a trailway.

(n) No person shall operate any vehicle on the trail that is specifically permitted on the trail, in excess of fifteen (15) miles per hour. A person who violates this subsection is responsible for a municipal civil infraction.

PART III AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 90 TRAFFIC AND VEHICLES

Article IV-BICYCLES Sec. 90-132 Registration shall be deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

Sec. 132. Electric Bicycles

General traffic laws.

(a) Every person riding an electric bicycle upon a roadway shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the responsibilities applicable to the driver of a motor vehicle by the laws of this state declaring rules of the road applicable to motor vehicles or by article II of this chapter applicable to the driver of any vehicle, except as to special regulations in this article and except as to those provisions of law and article II of this chapter which by their nature can have no application.

(b) Any person operating an electric bicycle shall obey the instructions of official traffic control signals, signs and other traffic control devices applicable to motor vehicles, unless otherwise directed by a police officer. This includes the requirement to stop at stop signs before proceeding.

(c) No person shall park an electric bicycle upon a street other than upon the roadway against the curb or upon the sidewalk in a rack to support the bicycle or against a building, or in such manner as to afford the least obstruction to pedestrian traffic.

(d) Pursuant to the Michigan Vehicle Code, no person shall ride an electric bicycle upon a sidewalk.

(e) Every electric bicycle when in use at nighttime shall be equipped with a lamp on the front which shall emit a white light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the front and with a red reflector on the rear, of a type which shall be visible from all distances from 50 feet to 300 feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful upper beams of headlamps on a motor vehicle.

(f) Every electric bicycle shall be equipped with a brake which will enable the operator to make the braked wheel skid on dry, level, clean pavement.

(h) It shall be prohibited to ride electric bicycles in the downtown district and in the historic district. The downtown district shall be defined as the area between the CSX railroad tracks on the north side of Downtown and extend southward along Lafayette Street to the former Grand Trunk Western railroad right-of-way (now S. Lyon City Trails/Reynolds Street Parkway). The historic district shall be district extends up to one block west or east of Lafayette Street. The historic district shall be

defined to be the area in McHattie Park surrounding the Witch's Hat Depot Museum, the Little Village Chapel, the Freight House and the Victorian Gazebo.

(i) *Riding prohibited where posted.* The city manager is hereby authorized to erect signs on any publicly owned parking area, street, sidewalk, parking structure, parking lot, or other public property prohibiting the riding of electric bicycles thereon. It shall be unlawful to ride an electric bicycle on any such posted parking area, street, sidewalk, parking structure, parking lot or other public property.

(k) Electric bicycle does not include an e-moto bicycle, which is a high-powered moped like device (has an engine of 100ccs or less with no gear shifting with a maximum speed of 30 mph) or motorcycle like device.

Article IV-BICYCLES Sec. 90-133 Rental agencies shall be deleted and replaced with the following:

Sec. 90-133. - Violations and penalties.

(a) *Civil infraction.* Any violation of Section 90-131 shall be deemed a civil infraction.

(b) *Misdemeanor penalties.* Any violation of section 90-132 shall be deemed a misdemeanor

Article IV-BICYCLES Sec. 90-134 Violations and penalties shall be deleted as worded and reserved.

Secs. 90-134-150. Reserved.

Part V. – Severability. If one or more sections, provisions, phrases or words of this Ordinance are declared to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance, which shall continue in full force and effect, and to this end, this Ordinance is declared to be severable.

PART VI. Savings Clause. The amendment of the City of South Lyon Code of Ordinances set forth in this Ordinance does not affect or impair any act done, offense committed, or right accruing, accrued, or acquired or liability, penalty, forfeiture or punishment, pending or incurred prior to the amendment of the South Lyon Code of Ordinances set forth in this Ordinance.

PART VII. Repealer. All other Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed only to the extent necessary to give this Ordinance full force and effect.

PART VII. Effective Date: Publication. The provisions of this Ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its adoption and shall be published within fifteen (15) days of its adoption by publication of a brief notice in a newspaper circulated in the City, stating the date of enactment and the effective date of the ordinance, a brief statement as to the subject matter of this Ordinance and such other facts as the Clerk shall deem pertinent, and that a copy of the Ordinance is available for public use and inspection at the office of the City Clerk.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was adopted by the South Lyon City Council, Oakland County, Michigan, at a meeting of the Council duly called and held on the 9th day of February, 2026.

Lisa Deaton, City Clerk

Adopted:
Published:
Effective: