

Committee of the Whole City Council Meeting

**Monday, August 10, 2026
5:30 PM
Main Conference Room, City Hall
101 W. 5th Street
Spencer, Iowa**

- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. New Business**
 - A. Electronic Bike/Scooter Discussion
- 3. Adjourn**

Note: Some members may participate by telephone, per Section 21.8 of the Code of Iowa

ORDINANCE 2253

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 76 of the Code of Ordinances of The City of Ankeny, Iowa by amending provisions pertaining to bicycle and electric scooter regulations

BE IT ENACTED by the City Council of the City of Ankeny, Iowa:

SECTION 1. CHAPTER MODIFIED: That Chapter 76 BICYCLE AND PERSONAL TRANSPORTATION DEVICES REGULATIONS of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Ankeny, Iowa, is repealed and the following adopted in lieu thereof:

CHAPTER 76 BICYCLE AND ELECTRIC SCOOTER REGULATIONS

76.01 Purpose	76.07 Responsible Riding
76.02 Definitions	76.08 Place of Riding
76.03 Scope of Regulations	76.09 Parking
76.04 Traffic Code Applies	76.10 Equipment Requirements
76.05 Motor Vehicle Operations	76.11 Violations
76.06 Actions Against Bicycles and Electric Scooters	

76.01 PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Chapter is to set forth regulations for operating bicycles, electric scooters, E-Moto or electric motorcycles, and motorized bicycles on the city's roadways, streets, sidewalks, and multi-use trails as enabled by Code of Iowa, Section 321.235 and 321.236[10].

76.02 DEFINITIONS.

1. "Bicycle" means either of the following: (1) A device having up to four wheels and having at least one saddle or seat for the use of a rider which is propelled by human power. (2) A low-speed electric bicycle.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.1[40.c.])

2. "Bicycle lane" means a portion of a street designed for exclusive or preferential use by persons using bicycles, or electric scooters. Bicycle lanes are to be distinguished from the portion of the street used for motor vehicle traffic by physical barrier, striping, marking, or other similar device.

3. "Bicycle path" means a paved or unpaved surface, separate from the street, in the right-of-way at or greater than eight feet (8') in width under the jurisdiction and control of the state or a local political subdivision thereof for use primarily by bicycles, low-speed electric bicycles, electric scooters, and pedestrians.

4. "E-Moto or Electric Motorcycle" means a motor vehicle having a saddle or seat for the use of a rider, with a motor with peak power of 3kW-20kW, designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, and capable of operating at speeds greater than thirty-nine miles per hour on level ground unassisted by human power, but excluding a motorized bicycle.
5. "Electric scooter" means a device weighing less than one hundred pounds that is equipped with one, two or three wheels, with or without handlebars, with or without a seat or saddle, and an electric motor, and which is solely powered by the rider or by an electric motor capable of propelling the device without additional propulsion supplied by the rider, at a maximum speed on a paved level surface of no more than twenty miles per hour, or both.
6. "Low-speed electric bicycle" means a device having a saddle or seat for the use of a rider, up to four wheels, equipped with fully operable pedals, and an electric motor with a top speed of 28mph or less.
7. "Motorized Bicycle" means a motor vehicle having a saddle or seat for the use of a rider, designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground, and not capable of operating at a speed in excess of thirty-nine miles per hour on level ground unassisted by human power, but excluding a low speed electric bicycle.
8. "Other Power-Driven Mobility Device (OPDMD)" means any mobility device powered by batteries, fuel, or other engines that is used by individuals with mobility disabilities for the purpose of locomotion, including, electronic personal assistance mobility devices, or any mobility device designed to operate in areas without defined pedestrian routes, but that is not a wheelchair or a golf cart.
9. "Roadway" means that portion of a highway improved, designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular travel.
10. "Street" means the entire width between property lines of every way or place of whatever nature when any part thereof is open to the use of the public, as a matter of right, for purposes of vehicular traffic.
11. "Sidewalk" means a paved or unpaved surface, separate from the street, in the right-of-way less than eight feet (8') in width under the jurisdiction and control of the local political subdivision thereof for use primarily by pedestrians.
12. "Residential district" means a territory not comprising a business district and which is occupied mainly by structures for residential dwellings.
13. "Business district" means a territory not comprising a residential neighborhood and which is occupied mainly by buildings in use for business purposes.

76.03 SCOPE OF REGULATIONS.

These regulations shall apply whenever a bicycle, electric scooter, low-speed electric bicycle, OPDMD, E-Moto, Electric Motorcycle, Motorized Bicycle, is operated upon any public street, roadway, park road, sidewalk, or in any bicycle lane and path, subject to those exceptions and regulations stated herein.

76.04 TRAFFIC CODE APPLIES.

1. Every person, including a peace officer, riding a bicycle, low-speed electric bicycle, electric scooter, or Other Power-Driven Mobility Device (“OPDMD”) upon a roadway or in a bicycle lane shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle by the laws of the State declaring rules of the road applicable to vehicles or by the Traffic Code of the City applicable to the driver of a vehicle, except as to those provisions that by their nature can have no application or those for which specific exceptions have been set forth regarding police bicycles. This does not apply to the use of a bicycle, electric scooter or OPDMD in a parade authorized by proper permit from local authorities.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.234[2, 5])

2. Bicycles, low-speed electric bicycles, electric scooters, or OPDMD’s are not subject to registration, licensure, titling, inspection, and proof of financial liability coverage provisions of Code of Iowa, Chapter 321.

3. E-Motos, Electric Motorcycles and Motorized Bicycles are subject to registration, licensure, titling, inspection, and proof of financial liability coverage provisions of Code of Iowa, Chapter 321.

4. Riders of E-Motos, Electric Motorcycles and Motorized Bicycles are required to have possession of a driver’s license or permit.

5. Riders of bicycles, low-speed electric bicycles, electric scooters, or OPDMD’s are not required to have possession of a driver’s license or permit.

6. Whenever such person dismounts from a bicycle, low-speed electric bicycle, electric scooter, or OPDMD’s, the person shall be subject to all regulations applicable to pedestrians.

7. A peace officer riding a police bicycle in the line of duty may do any of the following:

A. Proceed past a red or stop signal or stop sign, but only after slowing down as may be necessary for safe operation.

B. Exceed the maximum speed limits as long as the rider does not endanger life or property.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.231)

76.05 MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATIONS.

1. Bicycle lane right-of-way. Operators of all motor vehicles shall yield the right-of-way to bicycles, and electric scooters in a designated bicycle lane and shall not operate a motor vehicle within a bicycle lane, unless provisions of law establish other requirements and regulations at intersections and other places affecting such bicycle lanes, then such other provision of law shall control. No person shall drive a motor vehicle in a bicycle lane established on a roadway or street except as follows:

A. To prepare for a turn within a distance of 200 feet from the intersection.

2. Lateral Passing Distance. The driver of a motor vehicle overtaking a bicycle or an electric scooter that is traveling on a paved shoulder or in a bicycle lane, shall give at least three feet of lateral passing distance between the outside of the vehicle and the rider and device.
3. Opening Doors. No person shall open any door of a motor vehicle located on a roadway or street without first taking precaution to ensure that this action does not interfere with the movement of traffic or endanger any other person or vehicle. In addition, no person shall leave open any door of a motor vehicle located on a roadway for a period of time longer than necessary to load or unload passengers or cargo.
4. Yield to persons in crosswalks. The driver of a motor vehicle shall yield right-of-way, slowing down or stopping if need be to so yield, to a pedestrian or person dismounted from a bicycle or electric scooter or a person mounted on a bicycle or electric scooter within any marked crosswalk or unmarked crosswalk at an intersection.
5. Parking. Drivers of motor vehicles shall not park in bicycle lanes, bicycle paths, or multi-use trails.

76.06 ACTIONS AGAINST BICYCLES AND ELECTRIC SCOOTERS.

1. A person operating a motor vehicle shall not steer the motor vehicle unreasonably close to or toward a dismounted pedestrian or a person riding a bicycle or electric scooter on a roadway or street, including the adjacent shoulder.
2. A person shall not knowingly project any object or substance at or against a dismounted pedestrian or a person riding a bicycle, electric scooter, or OPDMD on a roadway or street, adjacent shoulder, sidewalk, multi-use trail, or any other location.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.281)

76.07 RESPONSIBLE RIDING.

1. Double Riding Restricted. A person propelling a bicycle shall not ride other than astride a permanent and regular seat attached thereto. No bicycle, electric scooter, or Other Power-Driven Mobility Device (“OPDMD”) shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped. This does not apply to the use of a bicycle or electric scooter in a parade authorized by proper permit from local authorities.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.234[3, 4, 5])

2. Speed. A person shall not operate a bicycle, electric scooter, or OPDMD at a speed greater than is careful and prudent at a rate of speed no greater than is reasonable and proper under the conditions existing at the point of operation, taking into account the surroundings and environment, such as inclement weather, infrastructure conditions, and grade. A person shall not operate a bicycle, low-speed electric bicycle, or OPDMD on a bicycle lane, bicycle path or sidewalk in excess of the posted or applicable speed limit, or if there is no posted or applicable speed limit, twenty miles per hour.

3. Control of bicycle, electric scooter, or OPDMD. The operator shall keep the device under directional, speed, and stopping control at all times.
4. Improper riding. No person shall operate a bicycle, electric scooter, or OPDMD in an irregular or reckless manner so as to disregard the safety of the operator, others, or property.
5. Right of way. Riders of electric scooters, low speed electric bicycles, and other OPDMD shall yield right of way to pedestrians, human-powered bicycles, and other human-powered conveyances. Riders of bicycles and other human powered devices shall yield right of way to pedestrians.
6. Emerging from an Alley or Driveway. The operator of a bicycle, electric scooter, or OPDMD emerging from an alley, driveway or building shall, upon approaching a sidewalk or the sidewalk area extending across any alleyway, yield the right-of-way to all pedestrians approaching on said sidewalk or sidewalk area, and upon entering the roadway shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles approaching on said roadway.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.353)

7. Hand Signals. Riders of bicycles or electric scooters may, but shall not be required to, signal their turning movements and stopping with their hands and arms as follows:
 - A. Left Turn - left hand and arm extended horizontally to the left.
 - B. Right turn - left hand and arm extended upward to the left or right hand and arm extended horizontally to the right.
 - C. Stopping or slowing - left hand and arm extended downward.
8. Following Emergency Vehicles. No person riding a bicycle, electric scooter, or OPDMD shall follow closer than 500 feet of an emergency vehicle as defined by Iowa Code section 321.1 which has emergency lights and/or siren activated, and shall not stop, park, or leave a bicycle, electric scooter, or OPDMD within 500 feet of an emergency vehicle stopped in response to an emergency.
9. Towing. It is unlawful for any person riding upon any bicycle, electric scooter, or OPDMD to attach the device or themselves to any moving motor vehicle by tow rope, hand grip or otherwise. This section shall not prohibit attaching a trailer to a bicycle or electric scooter that is designed to accommodate such a device.

76.08 PLACE OF RIDING.

1. Bicycle Path. Bicycles, electric scooters, low-speed electric bicycles, and OPDMD's may be operated on Bicycle Paths, subject to the limitations of this Chapter.
2. Roadways and Streets.
 - A. When riding on the roadway or street, riders of bicycles, low-speed electric bicycles, and electric scooters shall ride in the same location and manner and follow the same state and local laws applicable to motorized vehicles, unless a bicycle path or bicycle lane exists adjacent to a roadway or street in which case riders may ride in the bicycle path or bicycle lane according to applicable regulations and laws.

B. This section does not apply to the use of a bicycle, electric scooter or OPDMD in a parade or special event authorized by the city.

3. Public Sidewalks and Bicycle Paths.

A. Public Sidewalks: Bicycles, low-speed electric bicycles, electric scooters, and OPDMD's may be operated upon the public sidewalks in residential districts only in a careful and prudent manner except where signs or pavement markings explicitly prohibit riding on the sidewalk, or upon sidewalks along the business districts, or in specified dismount zones where users shall walk their bicycle, low-speed electric bicycle, and electric scooter.

B. Bicycle Paths: Bicycles, Electric scooters, low-speed electric bicycles, and OPDMD's may be operated upon bicycle paths that are equal to or greater than eight feet (8') in width except where signs or pavement markings explicitly prohibit riding on the bicycle path.

C. When operated inside city parks or green spaces where Bicycle Paths and Sidewalks exist, electric scooters and low-speed electric bicycles shall only be ridden on the paved portion of the Bicycle Paths and Sidewalks.

D. Any operation of a bicycle, low-speed electric bicycle or OPDMD shall at all times be subject to the limitations and obligations created by state law and municipal law, including the responsible Rider requirements of Section 76.07.

E. OPDMD's may be operated by persons with mobility disabilities on all sidewalks provided that they do not risk damage to the sidewalks, surrounding environment, or pose a risk to the safety of other sidewalks users.

F. E-Motos, Electric Motorcycles, and Motorized Bicycles are expressly prohibited from operation on Sidewalks, Bicycle Paths, and City Parks or Green Spaces. E-Motos, Electric Motorcycles, and Motorized Bicycles and their riders, are subject to all requirements referenced in section 76.04(3).

76.09 PARKING.

Parking locations for bicycles or electric scooters shall retain access to:

1. an ADA-compliant pedestrian pathway
2. a fire hydrant
3. a US Postal Service mailbox
4. a crosswalk or curb ramp
5. loading zones
6. transit zones, including bus stops, shelters, or other passenger waiting areas
7. accessible parking spaces
8. street furniture or amenities that require pedestrian access
9. entryways
10. driveways.

76.10 EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS.

Every person riding a bicycle or electric scooter shall be responsible for providing and using equipment as provided herein:

1. Every device when in use between sunset and sunrise and when weather conditions provide insufficient lighting to render clearly discernable persons and vehicles on the road at a distance of 300 feet ahead, shall be equipped with a lamp on the front emitting a white light visible from a distance of at least three hundred (300) feet to the front and with a lamp on the rear exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 300 feet to the rear except that a red reflector on the rear, may be used in lieu of a rear light. The lamps or reflector may be attached to the rider of the device rather than the device itself provided the visibility requirements are met. A peace officer riding a police bicycle is not required to use either front or rear lamps if duty so requires.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.384 and Sec. 321.397)

2. Equivalent equipment such as headlamps and red-light attachments to the head, back, arm, or leg may be used in lieu of a lamp on the front and a red light on the rear of the device.

3. Brakes Required. Every device shall be equipped with a brake which will enable the operator to make the braked wheel skid on dry, level, clean pavement.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.236[10])

4. A device shall not be equipped with and a person shall not use upon such device any siren or whistle. This shall not apply to bicycles ridden by peace officer in the line of duty.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.434)

76.11 VIOLATIONS.

Violations of any provision of this chapter shall be punishable by a simple misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE. If any section, provision, or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any section, provision, or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 3. WHEN EFFECTIVE. This ordinance shall be in effect from and after its final passage, approval, and publication as provided by law.

PASSED at Ankeny, Iowa, this 20th day of April, 2026.

Bobbi B. Bentz, Mayor

ATTEST:

Michelle Yuska, City Clerk

**PUBLISHED IN
THE DES MOINES REGISTER
ON THE 24TH DAY OF APRIL, 2026.**

**1st Con 3/16/26
2nd Con 4/06/26
3rd Con 4/20/26**

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-06

“AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF HUMBOLDT, IOWA BY AMENDING CHAPTER 76, PERTAINING TO BICYCLE AND MICROMOBILITY REGULATIONS.”

Be It Enacted by the City Council of Humboldt, Iowa that

SECTION 1. Chapter 76 of the Humboldt City Code is hereby amended as follows:

CHAPTER 76

BICYCLE AND MICROMOBILITY REGULATIONS

76.1 Scope of Regulations	76.08 Riding on Sidewalks
76.2 Traffic Code Applies	76.09 Towing
76.3 Double Riding Restricted	76.10 Improper Riding
76.4 Two Abreast Limit	76.11 Parking
76.5 Speed	76.12 Equipment Requirements
76.6 Emerging from Alley or Driveway	76.13 Special Penalty
76.7 Carrying Articles	

76.1 PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Chapter is to set forth regulations for operating bicycles, electric scooters and other micromobility devices on the city's streets, sidewalks, and multi-use trails. (*Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.236[10]*)

76.2 DEFINITIONS.

1. "Bicycle" means either of the following: (1) A device having up to four wheels and having at least one saddle or seat for the use of a rider which is propelled by human power. (2) A low-speed electric bicycle.
2. "Electric scooter" means a device weighing less than one hundred pounds that is equipped with two or three wheels, handlebars, and an electric motor, and which is solely powered by the rider or by an electric motor capable of propelling the device without additional propulsion supplied by the rider, at a maximum speed on a paved level surface of no more than twenty miles per hour, or both.
3. "Low-speed electric bicycle" means a device having a saddle or seat for the use of a rider, up to four wheels, equipped with fully operable pedals, and an electric motor of less than seven hundred fifty watts that meets the requirements of one of the following classes:
 - A. "Class 1 low-speed electric bicycle" means a low-speed electric bicycle equipped with a motor that may be used to provide assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of twenty miles per hour or more.
 - B. "Class 2 low-speed electric bicycle" means a low-speed electric bicycle equipped with a motor that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle and that is not capable of providing assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of twenty miles per hour or more.
 - C. "Class 3 low-speed electric bicycle" means a low-speed electric bicycle equipped with a motor that may be used to provide assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of twenty-eight miles per hour or more.
4. "Micromobility device" means a mobility device under one hundred fifty pounds, which may be equipped with an electric motor for assistance or sole propulsion, designed for conveying the operator, with speeds of less than twenty miles per hour.

5. "Multi-use trail" means a way or place for the use and travel of bicycles, pedestrians, or other authorized conveyances, the use of which is controlled by the city, designated by the multi-use trail maps, as approved by resolution by the city council, and no multi-use trail shall be considered as a street or highway.

6. "Other Power-Driven Mobility Device (OPDMD)" means any mobility device powered by batteries, fuel, or other engines that is used by individuals with mobility disabilities for the purpose of locomotion, including golf carts, electronic personal assistance mobility devices, or any mobility device designed to operate in areas without defined pedestrian routes, but that is not a wheelchair.

76.3 TRAFFIC CODE APPLIES.

Every person riding a bicycle, electric scooter, or other micromobility device upon a roadway or in a bicycle lane shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle by the laws of the State declaring rules of the road applicable to vehicles or by the Traffic Code of the City applicable to the driver of a vehicle, except as to those provisions that by their nature can have no application. Bicycles, electric scooters, or other micromobility devices are not subject to registration, licensure, titling, inspection, and proof of financial liability coverage provisions of Code of Iowa, Chapter 321. Riders of bicycles, electric scooters, or other micromobility devices are not required to have possession of a driver's license or permit. Whenever such person dismounts from a bicycle, the person shall be subject to all regulations applicable to pedestrians.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.234)

76.4 DOUBLE RIDING RESTRICTED.

A person propelling a bicycle shall not ride other than astride a permanent and regular seat attached thereto. No bicycle, electric scooter, or micromobility device shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.234[3 and 4])

76.5 TWO ABREAST LIMIT.

Persons riding bicycles, electric scooters, or micromobility devices upon a roadway shall not ride more than two abreast except on paths or parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles. All bicycles electric scooters, or micromobility devices ridden on the roadway shall be kept to the right and shall be operated as near as practicable to the right-hand edge of the roadway.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.236[10])

76.6 SPEED.

No person shall operate a bicycle at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions then existing.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.236[10])

76.7 RIGHT OF WAY. Riders of electric scooters, low speed electric bicycles, and other electric personal transportation devices shall yield right of way to pedestrians, human-powered bicycles, and other human-powered conveyances. Riders of bicycles and other human powered devices shall yield right of way to pedestrians.

76.8 EMERGING FROM ALLEY OR DRIVEWAY.

The operator of a bicycle electric scooter, or other micromobility devices emerging from an alley, driveway or building shall, upon approaching a sidewalk or the sidewalk area extending across any alleyway, yield the right-of-way to all pedestrians approaching on said sidewalk or sidewalk area, and upon entering the roadway shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles approaching on said roadway.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.236[10])

76.9 CARRYING ARTICLES.

No person operating a bicycle shall carry any package, bundle or article that prevents the rider from keeping at least one hand upon the handlebars.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.236[10])

76.10 RIDING ON SIDEWALKS.

The following provisions apply to riding bicycles, electric scooters, and micromobility devices on sidewalks:

1. Business District. No person shall ride a bicycle, electric scooter, or micromobility device upon any sidewalk on Sumner Avenue from 8th Street to 4th Street. .

2. Other Locations. When signs are erected on any sidewalk or roadway prohibiting the riding of bicycles thereon by any person, no person shall disobey the signs.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.236[10])

3. Yield Right-of-Way. Whenever any person is riding a bicycle upon a sidewalk, such person shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and shall give audible signal before overtaking and passing.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.236[10])

76.11 TOWING.

It is unlawful for any person riding a bicycle, electric scooter, or micromobility device to be towed or to tow any other vehicle upon the streets of the City unless the vehicle is manufactured for such use.

76.10 IMPROPER RIDING.

No person shall ride a bicycle in an irregular or reckless manner such as zigzagging, stunting, speeding, or otherwise so as to disregard the safety of the operator or others.

76.11 PARKING.

1. Parking of a bicycle, electric scooter, or other micromobility device may be allowed:

- A. upon a street against or near the curb,
- B. upon the area between the sidewalk and the roadway,
- C. in a designated parking area for the device, or;
- D. against the wall of a building in such a manner as to afford pedestrian traffic clear movement in accordance with the American's with Disabilities Act.

2. Bicycles, electric scooters, or other micromobility devices shall not be parked in such a way as to impede access to:

- A. a fire hydrant;
- B. a US Postal Service mailbox;
- C. a crosswalk or curb ramp;
- D. loading zones;
- E. transit zones, including bus stops, shelters, or other passenger waiting areas;
- F. accessible parking spaces;
- G. street furniture or amenities that require pedestrian access;
- H. entryways; and driveways.

76.12 EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS.

Every person riding a bicycle, electric scooter, or other micromobility device shall be responsible for providing and using equipment as provided herein:

1. Lamps Required. Every device when in use between sunset to sunrise and when weather conditions provide insufficient lighting to render clearly discernable persons and vehicles on the road at a distance of 300 feet ahead, shall be equipped with a lamp on the front emitting a white light visible from a distance of at least 300 feet to the front and with a lamp on the rear exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 300 feet to the rear, except that a red reflector on the rear, may be used in lieu of a rear light. The lamps or reflector may be attached to the rider of the device rather than the device itself provided the visibility requirements are met. A peace 7 officer riding a police bicycle is not required to use either front or rear lamps if duty so requires. (Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.384 and Sec. 321.397)

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.397)

2. Equivalent equipment such as headlamps and red-light attachments to the head, back, arm, or leg may be used in lieu of a lamp on the front and a red light on the rear of the device.

3. A citation issued for failure to have a front or rear lamp or red reflector on a bicycle, electric scooter, or personal transportation device or on a rider of any of these devices as required shall first provide for a seventy-two hour period within which the person charged with the violation shall replace or repair the lamp. If the person complies with the directive to replace or repair the headlamp or rear lamp within the allotted time period, the citation shall be expunged. If the person fails to comply within the allotted time period, the citation shall be processed in the same manner as other citations.

4. A device shall not be equipped with and a person shall not use upon such device any siren or whistle. This shall not apply to bicycles ridden by peace officer in the line of duty.

5. Brakes Required. Every bicycle shall be equipped with a brake that will enable the operator to make the braked wheel skid on dry, level, clean pavement.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.236[10])

76.13 SPECIAL PENALTY.

Any person violating the provisions of this chapter may, in lieu of the scheduled fine for bicyclists or standard penalty provided for violations of this Code of Ordinances, allow the person's bicycle to be impounded by the City for not less than five days for the first offense, ten days for a second offense and thirty days for a third offense.

SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE. If any section, provision or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of this ordinance as a whole or any section, provision or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 3. WHEN EFFECTIVE. This ordinance shall be in effect with the billing on July 1, 2020, after its final passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

Passed by the City Council of Humboldt, Iowa this 18th day of August, 2025 and approved this 18th day of August, 2025.

Daniel E. Scholl, Mayor

Attest: _____
Amy L. Zeman, City Clerk

I certify that the foregoing was published as Ordinance No. 2025-06 on the ____ day of _____, 2025.

First Reading:	August 18, 2025
Second Reading:	Waived August 18, 2025
Third Reading:	Waived August 18, 2025
Date Published:	August 28, 2025

Amy L. Zeman, City Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 2025- _____

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTERS 76 (BICYCLE REGULATIONS)
AND 77 (SKATEBOARDS, ROLLER SKATES, AND IN-LINE SKATES) OF THE
CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
INDEPENDENCE, IOWA:**

SECTION 1. PURPOSE. The purpose of this ordinance is to amend and add to certain provisions of Chapters 76 and 77 of the City Code to regulate the use, operation, and penalties for violations of bicycles, electric micromobility devices, and skateboards, roller skates and in-line skates in the City.

SECTION 2. SECTIONS AMENDED IN CHAPTER 76. The following sections are hereby amended as follows with underlined text indicating language added and struck through text indicating language removed.

76.01 SCOPE OF REGULATIONS.

These regulations shall apply whenever a bicycle or micromobility device is operated upon any street or upon any public path set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles or micromobility devices, subject to those exceptions stated herein. However, these regulations do not apply to any law enforcement officer operating a bicycle or micromobility device while on duty and acting in the office line of duty. Further, these regulations do not apply to individuals operating an OPDMD as a reasonable accommodation due to a disability.

76.03 TRAFFIC CODE APPLIES; SIGNALS FOR BICYCLE AND SCOOTER OPERATORS.

Every person riding a bicycle or micromobility device upon a roadway shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle by the laws of the State declaring rules of the road applicable to vehicles or by the Traffic Code of the City applicable to the driver of a vehicle, except as to those provisions that by their nature can have no application. Whenever such person dismounts from a bicycle or micromobility device, the person shall be subject to all regulations applicable to pedestrians.

- A. For bicyclists and persons operating a micromobility device, signals shall be given in the following manner:
 - 1. Left turn: left hand and arm extended horizontally to the left.
 - 2. Right turn: left arm extended out sideways bent at a 90° angle at the elbow joint, hand pointing upward and the palm of the hand facing forward or right hand and arm extended horizontally to the right.
 - 3. Stop or decrease of speed: left arm extended out sideways bent at a 90° angle at the elbow joint, hand pointing downward and the palm of the hand rear facing.

76.04 DOUBLE RIDING RESTRICTED.

A person propelling a bicycle shall not ride other than astride a permanent and regular seat attached thereto. No bicycle or micromobility device shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped.

76.05 TWO ABREAST LIMIT.

Persons riding bicycles or micromobility devices upon a roadway shall not ride more than two abreast except on paths or parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles or micromobility devices. All bicycles or micromobility devices ridden on the roadway shall be kept to the right and shall be operated as near as practicable to the right-hand edge of the roadway.

76.06 SPEED.

No person shall operate a bicycle or micromobility device at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions then existing.

76.07 EMERGING FROM ALLEY OR DRIVEWAY.

The operator of a bicycle or micromobility device emerging from an alley, driveway, trail or building shall, upon approaching a sidewalk or the sidewalk area extending across any alleyway, yield the right-of-way to all pedestrians approaching on said sidewalk or sidewalk area, and upon entering the roadway shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles approaching on said roadway.

76.08 CARRYING ARTICLES.

No person operating a bicycle or micromobility device shall carry any package, bundle or article that prevents the rider from keeping at least one hand upon the bicycles or micromobility devices intended handlebars.

76.09 RIDING ON SIDEWALKS.

1. Business District. No person shall ride a bicycle or micromobility device upon a sidewalk within the Business District, as defined in Section 60.02(1) of this Code of Ordinances.
2. Other Locations. When signs are erected on any sidewalk, trail, or roadway prohibiting the riding of bicycles or micromobility device thereon by any person, no person shall disobey the signs.
3. Yield Right-of-Way. Whenever any person is riding a bicycle or micromobility device upon a sidewalk or trail, such person shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and shall give audible signal before overtaking and passing.

76.10 TOWING.

It is unlawful for any person riding a bicycle or micromobility device to be towed or to tow any other vehicle upon the streets or trails of the City unless the vehicle is manufactured for such use.

76.11 IMPROPER RIDING.

No person shall ride a bicycle or micromobility device in an irregular or reckless manner such as zigzagging, stunting, speeding, or otherwise so as to disregard the safety of the operator or others.

76.12 PARKING.

No person shall park a bicycle or micromobility device upon a street other than upon the roadway against the curb or upon the sidewalk in a rack to support the bicycle, or micromobility device, or against a building or at the curb, in such a manner as to afford the least obstruction to pedestrian traffic.

76.13 EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS.

Every person riding a bicycle or micromobility device shall be responsible for providing and using equipment as provided herein:

1. Lamps Required. Every bicycle or micromobility device when in use at nighttime shall be equipped with a lamp on the front emitting a white light visible from a distance of at least 300 feet to the front and with a lamp on the rear exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 300 feet to the rear, except that a red reflector on the rear, of a type that is 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, may be used in lieu of a rear light.
2. Brakes Required. Every bicycle or micromobility device shall be equipped with a brake that will enable the operator to make the braked wheel skid on dry, level, clean pavement.

76.14 SPECIAL PENALTY.

Any person violating the provisions of this chapter may, in lieu of the scheduled fine or standard penalty provided for violations of this Code of Ordinances, allow the person's bicycle or micromobility device to be impounded by the City for not less than five days for the first offense, 10 days for a second offense and 30 days for a third offense.

1. A person that does not voluntarily agree to impound their bicycle or micromobility device will be issued a notice of the special penalty contained in this chapter and may be subject to a scheduled fine or standard penalty provided for violations of this Code of Ordinances. The notice shall contain the following:
 - a. A summary of the offense;
 - b. an explanation of the special penalty under this chapter;
 - c. an explanation that as a result of their refusal to impound their bicycle or micromobility device, future violations will be treated as a municipal infraction and subject to applicable penalties;
 - d. an explanation that in the event the City is unable to obtain consent for impoundment from a minor offender and the minor's parent or legal guardian, the parent or legal guardian shall be liable for any municipal infraction arising from the minor's subsequent offenses;
 - e. an explanation that agreement to allow impounding is voluntary;
 - f. the location of the impound facility.
2. If the person whose bicycle or micromobility device is subject to impoundment is under the age of 18 and refuses to voluntarily relinquish the bicycle or micromobility device, the City may seek consent for impoundment from the minor's parent or legal guardian. The parent or guardian's voluntary agreement shall be deemed sufficient authorization for the City to take possession of the bicycle or micromobility device in accordance with this chapter.
3. If the person whose bicycle or micromobility device is subject to impoundment is under the age of 18, refuses to voluntarily relinquish the bicycle or micromobility device, and the City is unable to obtain consent from the minor's legal parent or guardian, the City shall issue the notice as provided in section 76.13(1) and subsequent offenses will be treated as municipal infractions.

SECTION 3. SECTIONS ADDED IN CHAPTER 76. The following reflects entirely new sections of Chapter 76 of the Independence Code of Ordinances and therefore no struck through, or underlined language is included.

76.02 DEFINITIONS.

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

BICYCLE – Either of the following:

- A. A device having two or three wheels and having at least one saddle or seat for the use of a rider, which is propelled by human power.
- B. A device having two or three wheels with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of less than 750 watts (one horsepower), whose maximum speed on a paved level surface, when powered solely by such a motor while ridden, is less than 20 miles per hour.

MICROMOBILITY DEVICE – means any device not a bicycle or an OPDMD, designed to carry one rider or operator, where such device is equipped with an electric motor of less than seven hundred fifty watts, and where such device is not required to be licensed or registered by the State of Iowa. Micromobility devices may be propelled either by the power of the rider or by an electric motor or a combination thereof. Micromobility devices include, but are not limited to, electric unicycles, electric tricycles, electric stand-up scooters, electric sit-down scooters, and motorized skateboards.

OTHER POWER-DRIVEN MOBILITY DEVICE (“OPDMD”) – means any mobility device powered by batteries, fuel, or other engines that is used by individuals with mobility disabilities for the purpose of locomotion, including, electronic personal assistance mobility devices, or any mobility device designed to operate in areas without defined pedestrian routes, but that is not a wheelchair or a golf cart.

SECTION 4. SECTIONS AMENDED IN CHAPTER 77. The following section is hereby amended as follows with underlined text indicating language added and struck through text indicating language removed.

77.05 SPECIAL PENALTY.

Any person violating the provisions of this chapter may, in lieu of the scheduled fine or standard penalty provided for violations for the Code of Ordinances, allow such person’s skateboard, roller skates or in-line skates to be impounded by the City for not less than five days for the first offense, 10 days for the second offence and 30 days for a third offense. Punishment for fourth and additional offenses shall revert to the scheduled fines and standard penalties provided for violations of this Code of Ordinances.

1. A person that does not voluntarily agree to impound their skateboard, roller skates or in-line skates will be issued a notice of the special penalty contained in this chapter and may be subject to a scheduled fine or standard penalty provided for violations of this Code of Ordinances. The notice shall contain the following:
 - a. A summary of the offense;
 - b. an explanation of the special penalty under this chapter;
 - c. an explanation that as a result of their refusal to impound their skateboard, roller skates or in-line skates, future violations will be treated as a municipal infraction and subject to applicable penalties;
 - d. an explanation that in the event the City is unable to obtain consent for impoundment from a minor offender and the minor’s parent or legal

guardian, the parent or legal guardian shall be liable for any municipal infraction arising from the minor's subsequent offenses;

- e. an explanation that agreement to allow impounding is voluntary;
- f. the location of the impound facility.

2. If the person whose skateboard, roller skates or in-line skates is subject to impoundment is under the age of 18 and refuses to voluntarily relinquish the skateboard, roller skates or in-line skates, the City may seek consent for impoundment from the minor's parent or legal guardian. The parent or guardian's voluntary agreement shall be deemed sufficient authorization for the City to take possession of the skateboard, roller skates or in-line skates in accordance with this chapter.
3. If the person whose skateboard, roller skates or in-line skates is subject to impoundment is under the age of 18, refuses to voluntarily relinquish the skateboard, roller skates or in-line skates, and the City is unable to obtain consent from the minor's legal parent or guardian, the City shall issue the notice as provided in section 77.05(1) and subsequent offenses will be treated as municipal infractions.

SECTION 4. REPEALER. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. SEVERABILITY. If any section, provision or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any section, provision, or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. This ordinance shall be in effect after its final passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of Independence, Iowa, on this _____ day of _____ 2026.

Brad Bleichner, Mayor of the City of

Independence, IA
ATTEST:

Susi Lampe, CMC, IaCMC, IaCFO,
Assistant City Manager/City Clerk/Treasurer of the City of Independence, IA

First Reading: December 8, 2025
Second Reading: January 12, 2026
Third Reading: January 26, 2026

I certify that the foregoing was published as Ordinance No. 2025-_____ on the _____ day of _____ 2026.

Susi Lampe, CMC, IaCMC, IaCFO,
Assistant City Manager/City Clerk/Treasurer of the City of Independence, IA

CHAPTER 74: RECREATIONAL AND TOY VEHICLES

Section

General Provisions

74.01 Skateboards, coasters and similar devices

Bicycles, Electric Scooters, or Personal Transportation Devices

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GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 74.01 SKATEBOARDS, COASTERS AND SIMILAR DEVICES.

(A) No person upon a skateboard, coaster or similar device shall operate or use such on any street, highway or alley.

(B) No person upon a skateboard, coaster or similar device shall operate or use such on any sidewalk in the area known as the Central Downtown Business District, described elsewhere in this code of ordinances.

(C) No person upon a skateboard, coaster or similar device shall operate or use such on any work of art, sculpture or monument or on any planter, free-standing flower or tree box, flower bed or garden or park equipment, nor shall such devices be used on any public stairway or access ramps built for the use of the disabled or other people, nor in any area designed and used for public seating.

(D) No person upon a skateboard, coaster or similar device shall operate or use such in or on any part of any building or property owned, leased or operated by the federal, state, county or city government, excluding city parks.

(2011 Code, § 11.1201) Penalty, see § 74.99

BICYCLES, ELECTRIC SCOOTERS, OR PERSONAL TRANSPORTATION DEVICES

§ 74.15 RESERVED.

§ 74.16 RESERVED.

§ 74.17 RESERVED.

§ 74.18 DEFINITIONS.

For the purpose of this subchapter, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

BICYCLE. Either of the following:

(1) A device having up to four wheels and having at least one saddle or seat for the use of a rider which is propelled by human power.

(2) A low-speed electric bicycle with a less than 750-watt motor.

ELECTRIC SCOOTER. A device weighing less than 100 pounds that is equipped with two or three wheels, handlebars, and an electric motor, and which is solely powered by the rider or by an electric motor capable of propelling the device without additional propulsion supplied by the rider, at a maximum speed on a paved level surface of no more than 20 miles per hour, or both.

GAS-POWERED MINI BIKES AND OFF-ROAD MOTORCYCLES. Any two-wheeled, gas-powered, unregistered motor vehicles having a saddle or seat for the use of the rider and designed to travel on not more than two wheels in contact with the ground that falls under the definition of ***ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE*** in Iowa Code Chapter 321I.

LOW-SPEED ELECTRIC BICYCLE. A device having a saddle or seat for the use of a rider, up to four wheels, equipped with fully operable pedals, and an electric motor of less than 750 watts that is not capable of operating at a speed in excess of 28 miles per hour.

MOTORIZED BICYCLE. A motor vehicle as defined by Iowa Code having a saddle or seat for the use of the rider, designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground and not capable of operating at a speed in excess of 39 miles per hour on level ground unassisted by human power and/or a motor in excess of 750-watts. Motorized bicycles are subject to the same licensure, titling and financial liability coverage as a moped.

PERSONAL TRANSPORTATION DEVICE. A mobility device under 150 pounds, which may be equipped with an electric motor for assistance or sole propulsion, designed for conveying the operator, with speeds of less than 20 miles per hour, but excluding a bicycle, low-speed electric bicycle, or electric scooter. This does not apply to ADA devices such as powered wheelchairs, scooter or any mobility devices powered by batteries, fuel, or other engines, not primarily designed for people with disabilities, that is used by an individual with mobility impairments for locomotion.

ROADWAY. That portion of a highway improved, designed, or ordinarily used for vehicular travel.
(Ord. 2486, passed 6-4-2026)

§ 74.19 TRAFFIC CODE APPLIED.

(A) Every person riding a bicycle or motorized bicycle upon a roadway or in a bicycle lane shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle by the laws of the state declaring rules of the road applicable to vehicles or by the traffic code of the city applicable to the driver of a vehicle, except as to those provisions that by their nature can have no application or those for which specific exceptions have been set forth regarding police bicycles. This does not apply to the use of a bicycle, electric scooter or personal transportation device in a parade authorized by proper permit from local authorities.

(B) Bicycles, electric scooters, gas-powered mini-bikes and off-road motorcycles, or personal transportation devices are not subject to registration, licensure, titling, inspection, and proof of financial liability coverage provisions of Iowa Code Chapter 321.

(C) Riders of bicycles, electric scooters, or personal transportation devices are not required to have possession of a driver's license or permit.

(D) Motorized bicycles are classified as a motor vehicle such as a moped and are subject to registration and licensure titling and inspection and require financial liability coverage.

(E) Gas-powered minibikes and off-road motorcycles are only permitted to be operated on private property. They are not permitted on any street, sidewalk, paved multi-use trails, or any other public space within the city limits, unless specifically for use in a parade or special event by the city.

(Ord. 2486, passed 6-4-2026)

§ 74.20 PAVED MULTI-USE PATHS.

Motorized bicycles, gas-powered minibikes and off-road motorcycles are prohibited from being ridden on paved multi-use trails.

(Ord. 2486, passed 6-4-2026)

§ 74.21 SPEED.

No person shall operate a bicycle, electric scooter, or personal transportation device at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions then existing.

(2011 Code, § 11.1107) (Ord. 2486, passed 6-4-2026) Penalty, see § 74.99

§ 74.22 EMERGING FROM ALLEY OR DRIVEWAY.

The operator of a bicycle, motorized bicycle, electric scooter, or personal transportation device emerging from an alley, driveway or building shall, upon approaching a sidewalk or the sidewalk area extending across any alleyway, yield the right-of-way to all pedestrians approaching on said sidewalk

or sidewalk area, and upon entering the roadway shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles approaching on said roadway.

(2011 Code, § 11.1108) (Ord. 2486, passed 6-4-2026) Penalty, see § 74.99

§ 74.23 CARRYING ARTICLES.

No person operating a bicycle, motorized bicycle, electric scooter, or personal transportation device shall carry any package, bundle or article which prevents the rider from keeping at least one hand upon the handle bars.

(2011 Code, § 11.1109) (Ord. 2486, passed 6-4-2026) Penalty, see § 74.99

§ 74.24 PLACES TO RIDE.

(A) *Paved multi-use trails.* Bicycles, electric scooters, and personal transportation devices may be operated on paved multi-use trails, except where signage prohibits the riding of bicycles, electric scooters, and personal transportation devices.

(B) *Roadways and streets.*

(1) When riding on the roadway or street, riders of bicycles and motorized bicycles shall ride in the same location and manner as motorized vehicles unless a multi-use trail, bicycle path or bicycle lane exists adjacent to a roadway or street, in which case riders may ride in the aforementioned location.

(2) Electric scooters, gas-powered minibikes, off-road motorcycles, and personal transportation devices shall not be ridden on roadways.

(3) This section does not apply to use of a bicycle, motorized bicycles, electric scooters, gas-powered minibikes, off-road motorcycles or personal transportation devices in a parade or special event authorized by the city.

(C) *Public sidewalks.* Bicycles, electric scooters, and personal transportation devices may be operated upon the public sidewalks in residential districts only in a careful and prudent manner, yielding the right-of-way to any pedestrian and shall give audible signal before overtaking and passing. Except where signs or pavement markings explicitly prohibit riding on the sidewalk, or upon sidewalks along the business districts.

(D) *Public parks.* Bicycles, motorized bicycles, electric scooters, and personal transportation devices may be operated in public parks in a careful and prudent manner, yielding the right-of-way to any pedestrian and vehicle traffic.

(Ord. 2486, passed 6-4-2026) Penalty, see § 74.99

§ 74.25 TOWING.

It shall be unlawful for any person riding a bicycle, motorized bicycle, electric scooter, or personal transportation device to be towed or to tow any other vehicle upon the streets of the city.

(2011 Code, § 11.1111) (Ord. 2486, passed 6-4-2026) Penalty, see § 74.99

§ 74.26 FOLLOWING EMERGENCY VEHICLES.

No person riding a bicycle, motorized bicycle, electric scooter, or personal transportation device shall follow closer than 500 feet of an emergency vehicle as defined by Iowa Code § 321.1.

(2011 Code, § 11.1112) (Ord. 2486, passed 6-4-2026) Penalty, see § 74.99

§ 74.27 IMPROPER RIDING.

No person shall ride a bicycle, motorized bicycle, electric scooter, or personal transportation device in an irregular or reckless manner such as zig-zagging, stunting, speeding or otherwise so as to disregard the safety of the operation or others.

(2011 Code, § 11.1113) (Ord. 2486, passed 6-4-2026) Penalty, see § 74.99

§ 74.28 PARKING.

No person shall park a bicycle, electric scooter, or personal transportation device 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 at the curb, in such a manner as to afford the least obstruction to pedestrian traffic.

(2011 Code, § 11.1114) (Ord. 2486, passed 6-4-2026) Penalty, see § 74.99

§ 74.29 EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS.

Every person riding a bicycle shall be responsible for providing and using equipment as provided herein.

(A) *Night-time use.* Every bicycle, motorized bicycle, electric scooter, or personal transportation device when in use at night-time shall be equipped with a lamp on the front of which shall emit a white light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the front and with a red deflector 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. A lamp emitting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear may be used in addition to the red reflector.

(B) *Brakes required.* Every bicycle, motorized bicycle, electric scooter, or personal transportation device shall be equipped with a brake which will enable the operator to make the braked wheel skid on dry, level, clean pavement.

(2011 Code, § 11.1115) (Ord. 2486, passed 6-4-2026) Penalty, see § 74.99

§ 74.99 PENALTY.

Any person violating any provision of this chapter shall be guilty of a simple misdemeanor and there shall be a fine of at least \$105, but not to exceed \$855, plus such court costs and surcharges as may from time to time be established for simple misdemeanors by the state.

(Ord. 2486, passed 6-4-2026)