



PRESS RELEASE
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MANHATTAN BEACH ADOPTS E-BIKE SAFETY REGULATIONS

New laws limit speed and location where e-bikes may operate and establish fines for violations

Manhattan Beach, CA (September 7, 2023) – At the September 5 meeting, the City Council adopted an urgency ordinance amending the Manhattan Beach Municipal Code (MBMC) establishing a speed limit, safety and operational standards, and location restrictions for bicycles, e-bikes, and motorized bicycles. The City Council also established fines associated with violations of this ordinance that are increased with each subsequent violation within one year.

With the increased use of e-bikes in Manhattan Beach, the City began partnering with Manhattan Beach Unified School District and local bike shops in order to educate riders about the importance of following the rules of the road while operating a bicycle or e-bike. “While e-bikes have become popular and are a great way to reduce our reliance on cars, pollution, and traffic, they aren’t toys and can be dangerous when not operated properly,” said Mayor Richard Montgomery. “The adoption of this ordinance is an important part of keeping our streets safe for all to enjoy, pedestrians and riders alike. The City has put teeth behind our commitment to safety, and the Manhattan Beach Police Department will be enforcing this ordinance with appropriate penalties for violators.”

The urgency ordinance became effective on September 6 and contains safety rules such as:

- Prohibits riding on City sidewalks, plazas, grass areas, the Strand, parking structures owned or operated by the City, County, or State, and Veterans Parkway.
- Prohibits riding at speeds over 15 miles per hour on the Marvin Braude Bike Trail (i.e. Beach Bike Path), and maintains the current “Walk Only Zone” on both sides of the pier.
- Requires wearing of properly strapped helmets for all riders under 18 years of age;
- Requires riders to use bike lanes where possible, and on streets without bike lanes, to ride close to the right curb or edge of roadway.
- Requires riders to ride in single file and not more than two abreast.
- Prohibits riding on the back of a bicycle or e-bike without a seat.
- Prohibits speeding, racing, or stunt activity.
- Reaffirms requirements to yield to pedestrians at all times.

Violations of this ordinance will result in a misdemeanor and a fine up to \$500 for the first violation, \$750 for the second violation within one year; and \$1,000 for each additional violation within one year of the

first violation. If the violation is committed by a minor, the minor's parents may be cited and fined for violations of the ordinance.

The community is encouraged to visit the [City's website](#) to learn more about bike safety and tips to ride safe in Manhattan Beach.