

DRAFT - City of St. Charles, Illinois
Ordinance No. 2025-M-_____

An Ordinance Amending Title 10, “Vehicles and Traffic”, Chapter 10.11, “Rules of the Road,” Section 10.11.2300, “Toy vehicles” thru Section 10.11.2380, “Speed limit”

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ST. CHARLES, KANE AND DUPAGE COUNTIES, ILLINOIS, AS FOLLOWS:

That Title 10, “Vehicles and Traffic”, Chapter 10.11, “Rules of the Road,” Section 10.11.2300, “Toy vehicles” thru Section 10.11.2380, “Speed limit” of the St. Charles Municipal Code is hereby deleted in its entirety, as attached hereto as “Exhibit A,” and in lieu of replaced by new Section 10.11.2300 – “Bicycle Obedience.”, Section 10.11.2310 – “Bicycle Riding Regulations.”, 10.11.2320 – “Electric Bicycle Definitions” , 10.11.2330 Electric Bicycle Rules and Regulations, 10.11.2340 – “Violation of Bicycle Riding Regulations or Electric Bicycle Rules and Regulations”, and 10.11.2350 Other Non-Bicycle Road Regulation Rules and Regulations” as attached hereto as Exhibit “B”.

That after the adoption and approval hereof this Ordinance shall be (i) printed or published in book or pamphlet form, published by the authority of the Council, or (ii) within thirty (30) days after the adoption and approval hereof, be published in a newspaper published in and with a general circulation within the City of St. Charles.

PRESENTED to the City Council of the City of St. Charles, Kane and DuPage Counties, Illinois this _____ day of _____ 2025.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of St. Charles, Kane and DuPage Counties, Illinois this _____ day of _____ 2025.

APPROVED by the Mayor of the City of St. Charles, Kane and DuPage Counties, Illinois this _____ day of _____ 2025.

Clint Hull, Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk/Recording Secretary

COUNCIL VOTE:

Ayes:

Nays:

Absent:

Abstain:

General Provisions and Definitions (10.11.2300)

A. Application of Rules.

It is unlawful for any person to do any act forbidden or fail to perform any act required by this Code.

The parent of any child and the guardian of any ward shall not authorize or knowingly permit any such child or ward to violate any of the provisions of this Code.

B. Adoption of State Law

The City hereby adopts by reference the provisions of the Illinois Compiled Statutes and the Illinois Vehicle Code (625 ILCS 5/ *et seq.*), including, but not limited to, laws relating to bicycle operation, pedestrian rights-of-way, traffic control devices, and motor vehicle regulations, as amended from time to time, except as otherwise provided by these ordinances. These provisions shall be in full force and effect within the jurisdictional boundaries of the City and shall be enforced as if fully set forth herein.

Selected provisions of the Illinois Vehicle Code are restated in this Code for emphasis or clarification only. In the event of a conflict, the provisions of this Code shall control and be enforced within the jurisdictional boundaries of the City.

C. Definitions.

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

1. BICYCLE: Every device having 2 or more wheels propelled solely by human power upon which any person may ride, except scooters and similar devices.
2. BIKE LANE: A designated portion of the highway reserved for bicycles, marked by pavement striping or physical separation from vehicle lanes
3. ELECTRIC MOTORCYCLE (E-Moto): A 2- or 3-wheeled motor vehicle that is powered by an electric motor greater than 750 watts and is capable of achieving a speed greater than 20 miles per hour without pedaling. E-Motos are also known as “Out-of-Class Electric Vehicles.”
4. LOW-SPEED ELECTRIC SCOOTER: A device weighing less than 100 pounds, with 2 or 3 wheels, handlebars, and a floorboard that can be stood upon while riding, that is powered by an electric motor and human power, and whose maximum speed, with or without human propulsion, is 10 miles per hour or more. “Low Speed Electric Scooter” does not include a Moped, E-Moto, or Motor Driven Cycle.
5. HIGHWAY: The entire width between the boundary lines of every way publicly maintained when any part thereof is open to the use of the public for

purposes of vehicular travel or located on public school property.

6. **LOW-SPEED ELECTRIC BICYCLES:** A Bicycle equipped with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of less than 750 watts that meets the requirements of the following classes:
 - a. “Class 1 low-speed electric bicycle” means a Low-Speed Electric Bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of 20 miles per hour.
 - 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 20 miles per hour.
 - c. “Class 3 low-speed electric bicycle” means a Low-Speed Electric Bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of 28 miles per hour.

A “Low-Speed Electric Bicycle” is not a Moped or a Motor Driven Cycle.

7. **ENTRY LEVEL-SPEED ELECTRIC SCOOTER:** A device weighing less than 100 pounds, with 2 or 3 wheels, handlebars, and a floorboard that can be stood upon while riding, that is solely powered by an electric motor and human power, and whose maximum speed, with or without human propulsion, of 10 miles per hour or less. “Entry Speed Electric Scooter” does not include a Moped or Motor Driven Cycle.
8. **LOW-SPEED GAS BICYCLE:** A 2-wheeled or 3-wheeled device equipped with fully operable pedals and a gasoline motor of less than one horsepower of 15 cubic centimeter displacement that is operated at speeds of less than 20 miles per hour.
9. **MOPED:** A moped is a motor-driven cycle, with or without optional power derived from manually operated pedals, whose speed attainable in one mile is at least 20 mph and is equipped with a motor that produces 2 brake horsepower or less. If an internal combustion engine is used, the displacement shall not exceed 50 cubic centimeter displacement and the power drive system shall not require the operator to shift gears.
10. **MOTOR ASSISTED BICYCLE:** A device capable of being propelled by both human and any non-electric motor, upon which any person may ride, having 2 tandem wheels.
11. **MOTOR ASSISTED SCOOTER:** A device weighing less than 100 pounds, with 2 or 3 wheels, handlebars, and a floorboard that can be stood upon while

riding, that is powered by a motor, including but not limited to gas powered motor and/or human power.

12. **MOTORIZED WHEELCHAIR:** Any self-propelled vehicle, including a 3-wheeled vehicle, designed for and used by a person with disabilities, that is incapable of a speed in excess of 8 miles per hour on level ground.
13. **NON-MOTORIZED BICYCLE:** A solely human-powered device with 2 or more wheels not less than 12 inches in diameter, operable pedals, and designated seats for the transportation of one or more persons.
14. **SIDEPATH:** A path or trail completely separated from vehicular lanes and include an 8 to 10 foot paved space for both bicyclists and pedestrians.
15. **SIDEWALK:** A sidewalk is a paved, improved, or otherwise prepared surface intended for pedestrian use, typically located within the public right-of-way and running parallel to a roadway.
16. **VEHICLE:** Every device in, upon or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a street, except a Bicycle, High Speed Electric Scooter, Low-Speed Electric Bicycle, Low Speed Electric Scooter, Low-Speed Gas Bicycle, Motorized Wheelchair, and/or Non-Motorized Bicycle. For purposes of this Code, these excluded devices may be treated as Vehicles only when explicitly stated in this Code.

For the purposes of this Code, the terms E-Moto, Low-Speed Electric Scooter, Entry level-Speed Electric Bicycle, Low-Speed Electric Scooter, Low-Speed Gas Bicycle, Moped, Motor Assisted Bicycle, and Motor Assisted Scooter shall be collectively referred to as “Powered Bicycles.”

For the purposes of this Code, the terms Powered Bicycles and Non-Motorized Bicycles shall be collectively referred to as “Pedal Vehicles.” The term “Pedal Vehicles” does not include or constitute a “Vehicle” as defined in this Code.

D. Interpretation of Device Types.

If a device meets the definition of more than one category under this Code, the more restrictive classification shall apply. Where ambiguity exists, enforcement officers shall apply the classification that results in a greater restriction on operation, unless otherwise directed by this Code.

I. Pedal Vehicle Operation and Equipment Regulations (10.11.2310)

- A. General Traffic Law Applicability:** A person propelling a Pedal Vehicle upon the highway shall have all rights and duties of drivers under the Illinois Vehicle Code (625 ILCS 5/11 *et seq.*), as adopted by reference, except as otherwise provided by this Code.

B. Riding Regulations

1. Seating and Passengers: A person propelling a Pedal Vehicle shall not ride other than upon or astride a permanent and regular seat attached thereto. No Pedal Vehicle shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped, except that an adult rider may carry a child securely attached to his person in a backpack or sling, or in a child carrier seat with a seat belt or trailer that is properly designed and equipped for such purpose.
2. Clinging to Vehicles. No person riding upon any Pedal Vehicle shall attach the same or himself, by clinging or otherwise, to any other Pedal Vehicle, Motorized Wheelchair, and/or Vehicle.
3. Position of Pedal Vehicles on roadways.
 - a. Any person operating a Pedal Vehicle upon a roadway at less than the normal speed of traffic at the time and place and under the conditions then existing shall ride as close as practicable and safe to the right-hand curb or edge of the roadway except under the following situations:
 - i. When overtaking and passing any other Pedal Vehicle, Motorized Wheelchair, and/or Vehicle proceeding in the same direction; or
 - ii. When preparing for a left turn at an intersection or into a private road or driveway; or
 - iii. When reasonably necessary to avoid conditions including, but not limited to, fixed or moving objects, parked or moving Vehicles, pedestrians, animals, surface hazards, or substandard width lanes that make it unsafe to continue along the right-hand curb or edge. For purposes of this subsection, a “substandard width lane” means a lane that is too narrow for a Pedal Vehicle and a Vehicle to travel safely side by side within the lane; or
 - iv. When approaching a place where a right turn is authorized.
4. Left Turns.
 - a. A person riding a Non-Motorized Bicycle or Powered Bicycle intending to turn left shall follow the course of action described in 625 ILCS 5/11-801.
5. Riding in a Group: Persons operating Pedal Vehicles upon a roadway shall not ride more than 2 abreast, except on paths or parts of roadways set aside for their exclusive use. Persons riding 2 abreast shall not impede the normal and reasonable movement of traffic and, on a laned roadway, shall ride within a single lane subject to the provisions of this Code.

6. Carrying Articles and Device Use: No person operating a Pedal Vehicle shall carry any package, bundle or article which prevents the use of both hands in the control and operation of the Pedal Vehicle. The use of handheld cell phones, or similar devices, while operating a Pedal Vehicle, is prohibited. A person operating a Pedal Vehicle shall keep at least one hand on the handlebars at all times.
7. Turn and Stop Signals: Except as provided in this section, a person riding a Pedal Vehicle shall comply with the Illinois Motor Vehicle Code as follows: A signal of intention to turn right or left when required shall be given during not less than the last 100 feet traveled by Pedal Vehicle before turning and shall be given while the Pedal Vehicle is stopped waiting to turn. A signal by hand and arm need not be given continuously if the hand is needed in the control or operation of the Pedal Vehicle. No person may stop or suddenly decrease the speed of a Pedal Vehicle without giving an appropriate signal to any Vehicle or Pedal Vehicle to the rear.
8. Safe operation:
 - a. No person shall operate a Pedal Vehicle at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions then existing.
 - b. No person shall operate a Pedal Vehicle at a speed or in a reckless manner such that the safety of others is endangered.
 - c. No person shall ride a Pedal Vehicle on a public roadway or sidewalk in a reckless manner, such as performing any stunts.
 - d. No person shall ride a Pedal Vehicle on a public roadway or sidewalk while using any closed ear headphones which would impede awareness of auditory warning signals.
 - e. No Pedal Vehicle shall be operated if its mechanical condition shall impair the safe operation of the Pedal Vehicle.
 - f. Audible signals, including verbal warnings, must be used whenever necessary to alert pedestrians, other bicyclists, or motorists of an approaching Pedal Vehicle. Such signals should be given at a minimum distance of 100 feet from the individual or Vehicle being alerted.

C. Equipment Requirements

1. Lamps and reflectors: Every Pedal Vehicle 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 which shall be visible from all distances from 100 feet to 600 feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful lower beams of headlamps on a motor vehicle, except that a lamp emitting a steady or flashing red light visible from a

distance of 500 feet to the rear may be used in addition to or instead of the red reflector.

2. Brakes: Every Pedal Vehicle shall be equipped with a brake which will adequately control movement of and stop and hold such Pedal Vehicle.
3. Bell: No person shall operate a Pedal Vehicle that is not equipped with a bell or other device capable of giving a signal.

D. Pedal Vehicle Inspection: A uniformed police officer or other specifically authorized safety officer may at any time upon reasonable cause to believe that a Pedal Vehicle is unsafe or not equipped as required by law, or that its equipment is not in proper adjustment or repair, require the person riding the Pedal Vehicle to stop and submit the Pedal Vehicle to an inspection and such test with reference thereto as may be appropriate.

E. Pedal Vehicle Parking

1. The following provisions shall govern the parking of Pedal Vehicles:
 - a. A person may park a Pedal Vehicle on a sidewalk unless prohibited or restricted by an official traffic-control device.
 - b. A Pedal Vehicle parked on a sidewalk shall not impede the normal and reasonable movement of pedestrian or other traffic and must be positioned to maintain a minimum of 36 inches of unobstructed sidewalk width for others to pass.
 - c. A Pedal Vehicle may be parked on the roadway at an angle to the curb or edge of the roadway at any location where parking is allowed.
 - d. A person shall not park a Pedal Vehicle on a roadway in such a manner as to obstruct the movement of a legally parked Vehicle.
 - e. In all other respects, Pedal Vehicles parked anywhere on a highway shall conform with the provisions of the Illinois Vehicle Code regulating the parking of Vehicles.
2. Abandoned Pedal Vehicles.
 - a. Safely secured, operational condition Pedal Vehicles shall be allowed to remain on property dedicated to or owned by the City for up to ten days.
 - b. In the event a Pedal Vehicle remains on property dedicated to or owned by the City in excess of ten days, it shall be considered abandoned and may be removed by the City. The Pedal Vehicle shall be taken to the St. Charles Police Department as lost or abandoned property and disposed of pursuant to state statute.

F. Interference with Parked Pedal Vehicles.

It is unlawful at any time in the City to place any Pedal Vehicle along buildings in such a manner as to interfere with the ingress or egress thereof or to interfere with pedestrians, or along roadways where they may interfere with traffic or with persons entering or getting out of from Vehicles. No person shall move or in any manner interfere with any Pedal Vehicle which is properly parked, nor shall any person interfere or in any manner hinder any person from properly parking a Pedal Vehicle, except that members of the Police and Fire Departments may move, or in proper cases prevent the parking of a Pedal Vehicle when, in the judgment of the policeman or fireman, the action is necessary in order properly to safeguard persons or property.

G. Pedal Vehicle Racing

- a. Pedal Vehicle racing on a highway shall not be unlawful when a racing event has been approved by State or local authorities on any highway under their respective jurisdictions. Approval of Pedal Vehicle highway racing events shall be granted only under conditions which assure reasonable safety for all race participants, spectators and other highways users, and which prevent unreasonable interference with traffic flow which would seriously inconvenience other highway users.
- b. By agreement with the approving authority, participants in an approved Pedal Vehicle highway racing event may be exempted from compliance with any traffic laws otherwise applicable thereto, provided that traffic control is adequate to assure the safety of all highway users.

II. Regulations for Specific Devices (10.11.2320)

A. Low-Speed Electric Scooters.

1. A person may not operate a Low-Speed Electric Scooter unless the person is 18 years of age or older.
2. A person may operate a Low-Speed Electric Scooter upon a highway of the City authorized for use by Bicycles, unless that highway has a posted speed limit in excess of 35 miles per hour. However, a person may not operate a Low-Speed Electric Scooter upon any public sidewalk within the City limits at any time.
3. A Low-Speed Electric Scooter may be parked in the same manner and at the same locations as a Bicycle may be parked.
4. A person may not use a Low-Speed Electric Scooter to carry more than one person at a time.

5. Except as otherwise provided in this Section, the provisions of this Code that apply to Powered Bicycles also apply to Low-Speed Electric Scooters.

B. Low-Speed Electric Bicycles.

1. Each Low-Speed Electric Bicycle operating in the City shall comply with equipment and manufacturing requirements adopted by the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission under 16 CFR 1512.
2. A person may operate a Class 3 Low-Speed Electric Bicycle only if the person is at least 16 years of age. A person who is less than 16 years of age may ride as a passenger on a Class 3 Low-Speed Electric Bicycle that is designed to accommodate passengers.
3. There are no age restrictions for the operation of Class 1 and Class 2 Low-Speed Electric Bicycles.
4. A person may operate a Class 1, Class 2, or Class 3 Low-Speed Electric Bicycle upon any highway of the City authorized for use by Bicycles, bicycle lanes, side paths, shared-use paths, or multi-use trails.
5. A person may not operate a Class 1, Class 2, or Class 3 Low-Speed Electric Bicycle upon any public sidewalk within the City limits at any time.
6. Except as otherwise provided in this Section, the provisions of this Code that apply to Powered Bicycles also apply to Low-Speed Electric Bicycles.

C. Entry-Speed Electric Scooters.

1. A person may not operate an Entry-Speed Electric Scooter unless the person is 18 years of age or older.
2. A person may not operate an Entry-Speed Electric Scooter upon any highway of the City. However, a person may operate an Entry-Speed Electric Scooter upon any public sidewalk, bike lane, side path, shared-use path, or multi-use trail within the City limits at any time.
3. An Entry-Speed Electric Scooter may be parked in the same manner and at the same locations as a Bicycle may be parked.
4. A person may not use an Entry-Speed Electric Scooter to carry more than one person at a time.
5. Except as otherwise provided in this Section, the provisions of this Code that apply to Powered Bicycles also apply to Entry-Speed Electric Scooters.

D. Low-Speed Gas Bicycles.

1. A person may operate a Low-Speed Gas Bicycle only if the person is at least 16 years of age. A person who is less than 16 years of age may ride as a passenger on a Low-Speed Gas Bicycle that is designed to accommodate passengers.
2. A person may operate a Low-Speed Gas Bicycle upon a highway of the City authorized for the use by Bicycles, bicycle lanes, side paths, shared-use paths, or multi-use trails. However, a person may not operate a Low-Speed Gas Bicycle upon any public sidewalk within the City limits at any time.
3. Except as otherwise provided in this Section, the provisions of this Code that apply to Powered Bicycles also apply to Low-Speed Gas Bicycles.

E. Mopeds.

1. A person may operate a Moped only if the person is at least 16 years of age and has a valid driver's license.
2. A person may operate a Moped upon any highway of the City. However, a person may not operate a Moped upon any public sidewalk, bicycle lane, side path, shared-use path, or multi-use trail within the City limits at any time.
3. Except as otherwise provided in this Section, the provisions of this Code that apply to Powered Bicycles also apply to Mopeds.

F. E-Motos.

1. A person may operate an E-Moto only if the person is at least 16 years of age and has a valid driver's license.
2. A person may operate an E-Moto upon any highway of the City. However, a person may not operate an E-Moto upon any public sidewalk, bicycle lane, side path, shared-use path, or multi-use trail within the City limits at any time.
3. Except as otherwise provided in this Section, the provisions of this Code that apply to Powered Bicycles also apply to E-Motos.

III. Location Restrictions (10.11.2330)

A. Non-Motorized Bicycles

1. Unless otherwise posted, a person may operate a Non-Motorized Bicycle on a sidewalk, with exception of within Downtown Overlay District.
 - a. A person propelling a Non-Motorized Bicycle upon and along a sidewalk, or across a roadway upon and along a crosswalk, shall yield the right of way to any pedestrian and shall give audible signal before overtaking and passing such pedestrian.

- b. A person propelling a Non-Motorized Bicycle upon and along a sidewalk, or across a roadway upon and along a crosswalk, shall have all the rights and duties applicable to a pedestrian under the same circumstances.
 - c. A person shall not ride a Non-Motorized Bicycle upon and along a sidewalk, or across a roadway upon and along a crosswalk, where such use of Non-Motorized Bicycles is prohibited by official traffic-control devices.
- B. No person shall operate a Powered Bicycle upon any public sidewalk within the City limits at any time.

IV. Exemptions. (10.11.2340)

The following shall be exempt from the prohibitions contained in the previous sections:

- A. Any police vehicle, fire vehicle, municipal vehicle, special district vehicle, county vehicle, forest preserve vehicle, United States postal vehicle, driven by an employee in the course of his/her duties.
- B. Motorized wheelchairs.
- C. Electric personal assistance mobility devices, as defined in 625 ILCS 5/1-117.7 of the Illinois Vehicle Code.
- D. Any vehicle authorized by the municipality to participate in a municipality-authorized parade, while participating in said parades.

V. Other Non-Bicycle Road Regulations (10.11.2350)

- A. Toy vehicles. It is unlawful for any person upon skates, a coaster, sled, skateboard or other toy vehicles to go upon any roadway other than at a crosswalk in the City.
- B. Roller skating.
 - 1. Definition of Roller Skates: Roller skates shall be defined as any device worn on the foot with wheels and which is propelled by human power. This definition includes devices commonly known as or referred to as in-line skates.
 - 2. No person shall use roller skates, including in-line skates, on any public property, except sidewalks, crosswalks, and riverwalks. Whenever any person is skating upon a sidewalk, crosswalk, or riverwalk, such person shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and shall give an audible signal before overtaking and passing such pedestrian.

3. The Director of Public Works, or his designee, shall place and maintain signs prohibiting the use of roller skates, including in-line skates, as specified in subsection B above.

VI. Penalties. (10.11.2360)

A. For any person deemed to violate any provisions of this Chapter:

1. Any person violating any provisions of this title may be issued a citation resulting in fines not less than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) nor more than two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250.00).

Tiered Fine Schedule:

- A. First Offense: twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) fine.
 - B. Second Offense: fifty dollars (\$50.00) fine.
 - C. Third Offense: one hundred dollars (\$100.00) fine.
 - D. Third offense & any subsequent offenses: Must appear violation/administrative adjudication. Minimum fine one hundred dollars (\$100.00)/Maximum fine two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) and/or a combination of community service hours.
2. For violators seventeen (17) or under, the parents/guardians of the offender shall be notified. In addition, a warning or a citation, or notice to appear may be issued, if appropriate.