

Chapter 470
ELECTRIC MOBILITY DEVICES AND SHARED MOBILITY DEVICES

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CROSS REFERENCES
Michigan Vehicle Code, MCL 257.1
City of Manistee Codified Ordinances, Chapter 202

470.01 PURPOSE

To regulate and promote the health, safety and welfare of persons operating electric mobility devices within the City of Manistee, and to protect the safety of other users of public areas.

470.02 DEFINITIONS

The following words, terms and phrases, when used herein, shall be deemed to have the meanings set forth below:

- A. "City" means the City of Manistee.
- B. "Electric bike or bicycle" means a bicycle with an integrated electric motor which can be used for propulsion. Electric bike does not include a Vespa or moped-like vehicles, motorcycles, dirt bikes, ORVs, gas scooters, or any similar vehicle.
- C. "Electric skateboard" or "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 electrical propulsion system with power of no more than 2,500 watts, and has a maximum speed on a paved level surface of not more than 25 miles per hour.
- D. "Electric mobility device" includes all electric bicycles, electric skateboards, electric scooters, or other electric personal assistive mobility devices.
- E. "Furniture zone" means the area for all street furniture, street lights, recycling and waste receptacles, bicycle racks, and acts as a buffer between the roadway and the pedestrian sidewalk
- F. "Operator" means only persons over 14 years of age or those under 14 years of age but over 12 years of age and under direct visual supervision of an adult who is in control of the operator.

- G. “Shared mobility device” means any electric mobility device intended for public use.

470.03 RULES AND REGULATIONS

A person may operate an electric mobility device on city streets, subject to the following restrictions:

- A. Electric mobility devices may be operated on local roads, public parks, and bike paths. Such devices have all of the rights and are subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle under the Michigan Vehicle Code.
- B. Electric mobility devices are prohibited on all state trunk roads and City sidewalks.
- C. Electric mobility devices, except for electric bicycles, must not be operated at a speed of more than 15 miles per hour. An electric mobility device that does not have handlebars must not be operated on a highway or street with a speed limit of more than 15 miles per hour except to cross that highway or street, and an electric mobility device equipped with handlebars must not be operated on a highway or street with a speed limit of more than 35 miles per hour except to cross that highway or street.
- D. Electric mobility devices shall not ride more than two abreast.
- E. Electric mobility devices shall not operate on the City Riverwalk or any Pier.
- F. Only persons over 14 years of age or those under 14 years of age but over 12 years of age and under direct visual supervision may operate an electric mobility device.
- G. Any person who operates an electric mobility device on a public road must adhere to all applicable state and local laws, regulations and ordinances, including, but not limited to, those banning the possession and use of alcoholic beverages, and all other illegal drugs. In addition, no shared mobility device operator shall possess an open container of alcohol.
- H. An operator may not allow the number of people in or on an electric mobility device at any one time to exceed the maximum capacity specified by the manufacturer. The operator shall not allow passengers to ride on any part of an electric mobility device not designed to carry passengers.
- I. An operator of an electric mobility device shall not carry any article that impairs or prevents the operator’s control of the device.
- J. In no instances shall an electric mobility device be operated at a speed greater than 15 miles per hour.
- K. No electric mobility device may be operated at a speed greater than reasonable and prudent for the existing conditions.

- L. Electric mobility devices must be operated at the right edge of the roadway and must yield to all vehicular and pedestrian traffic and shall give an audible signal before overtaking and passing a pedestrian.
- M. Electric mobility devices being operated on a roadway between ½ hour after sunset and ½ hour before sunrise shall be equipped with a lamp on the front that emits a white light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the front and with a red reflector on the rear that shall be visible from all distances from 100 feet to 600 feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful lower beams of head lamps on a motor vehicle.
- N. Electric mobility devices are prohibited from parking on any sidewalk or any other location that impedes vehicular or foot traffic. Absent a City contract or franchise, and subject to the remainder of this section, an operator may park only in the manner that would be lawful for a bicycle, per the Michigan Vehicle Code. All other parking rules and limits apply. Shared mobility devices, when parked on a City sidewalk, shall be parked in the furniture zone.
- O. Electric mobility devices must have basic equipment supplied by the manufacturer.
- P. Absent a City contract to the contrary:
 - 1. Any electric mobility device left or parked in a street may be seized and impounded by the City if:
 - i. It impedes the flow of vehicular, or any other traffic,
 - ii. Is parked inconsistent with any City ordinance, resolution, sign, traffic control device, or traffic control order,
 - iii. Remains left for more than 72 hours,
 - iv. Is left by a person arrested or otherwise detained by City Police, or
 - v. Appears to a reasonable person to be stolen.
 - 2. Any impounded electric mobility devices may be recovered only upon presentation of proof of ownership of the device and upon payment of fees set by the City Administrator.
- Q. After an electric mobility device is impounded, if the City knows the identity of its owner and the owner's address, the City shall, within a reasonable time, give that owner written notice of the impoundment at their last known address.
- R. The City may sell, or otherwise dispose of, any impounded electric mobility device if such device remains unrecovered more than 6 months after its impoundment.
- S. The City Council may, by resolution, designate locations and times at and during which electric mobility devices may not be operated. The restrictions contained in any such resolution shall be posted on signs within the area designated by the resolution.

470.04 SHARED ELECTRIC SCOOTER PROCEDURE AND REQUIREMENTS

Shared mobility devices shall be subject to the provisions of this Chapter and the requirements of an agreement between the City and company operating within the City.

460.05 PENALTY

Violation of any of the provisions of Chapter 470 shall be penalized as a civil infraction under Section 202.99 of the City of Manistee Codified Ordinances.

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