



**DATE:** January 14, 2026

**TO:** Mayor Craft & Members of the City Council

**FROM:** Dan Netemeyer, Police Chief

**SUBJECT: E-Bike Rental Regulations and General Use Restrictions**

**ISSUE:** The purpose of this ordinance is to implement regulations on the rental and general use of mobility devices. Mobility devices include but are not limited to bicycles, e-bikes, Segways, motorized scooters, etc. The ordinance promotes the safe use and operation of mobility devices and places requirements on mobility device rental companies. Additionally, once passed, this ordinance is expected to prevent vehicular and pedestrian conflicts and create a safer environment for mobility device users, pedestrians, and bicyclists.

**BACKGROUND:** Over the past several months members of city staff (Executive, Planning & Zoning and Police Departments) have worked with the City Attorney to discuss issues, research best practices from other cities, and to develop regulations for the rental of mobility devices and the safe operation of mobility devices in the City of Gulf Shores.

**Key Components of the Ordinances:**

E-Bike Business Rental Ordinance

- Creates a Mobility Device Vendor license which includes rental companies who deliver
- Can only rent Class 1 E-bikes or Class 2 (if the throttle is non-operational) bikes
- Companies must provide a helmet
- May only rent to people over 18. Rentals for people under age 18 must be executed by a parent or the juvenile's legal guardian.
- Subject to inspection by the Gulf Shores Police Department
- Renters must watch a video about rules and safe operation prior to rental
- Notify operator of legal requirements which are acknowledged by signature

E-Bike Regulation

- Provides that Council can establish no ride or dismount zones by resolution in the future.
- Provides that the Council can establish a speed limit
- Establishes behaviors that are not allowed (i.e. wheelies, speeding, etc.)
- Requires an audible signal (voice or bell) when passing on multi-use trails and paths
- Provides that police can seize an e-bike that is being operated in violation by a juvenile

- Establishes Fines
- Establishes Impound Fee of \$50

E-Bikes Speed Limit Resolution

- Establishes a speed limit of 10 MPH on all City of Gulf Shores bicycle trails/paths.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommend the City Council approve the proposed ordinances.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION:** Not Applicable

**BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:** Moderate (signage and striping)

**RELATED ISSUES:** Not Applicable

**ATTACHMENTS:** Proposed Ordinances

**DEPARTMENT:** Police Department

**STAFF CONTACT:** Dan Netemeyer