

POLICE MEMORANDUM

#19-2026

DATE: Oct. 12, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor Meredith Leighty and City Council Members

THROUGH: Jason Loveland, Acting City Manager *AL 2*

FROM: James S. May Jr., Chief of Police *JSM 10/17*

SUBJECT: CB-2044 – Electrical Assisted Bicycles (E-Bikes) Amendments

PURPOSE

To consider CB-2044, an ordinance on first reading amending Northglenn Municipal Code Chapter 7, Article 9 to address the operation of electrical assisted bicycles (e-bikes).

BACKGROUND

The City of Northglenn has received numerous complaints in 2026 due to the increased usage of e-bikes on City owned trails and roadways. The community has grown increasingly concerned with the dangers associated with unregulated speed, age of drivers, and lack of regulation for e-bikes.

In response to community concerns and to reduce the risk of injuries, the Northglenn Police Department worked with the City Attorney's Office to draft an ordinance establishing regulations related to the operation of e-bikes. Some highlights of the draft ordinance include:

- Definitions and classifications of e-bikes
- Regulations on where they may be used
- Minimum age of use
- Parental liability
- Other general prohibitions

BUDGET/TIME IMPLICATIONS

There are no budgetary impacts.

If CB-2044 is approved on first reading, it will be scheduled for a public hearing and second reading on Oct. 26, 2026.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of CB-2044 on first reading.

STAFF REFERENCE

If Council members have any questions, please contact James S. May, Jr., Chief of Police, at jmay@northglenn.org or 303.450.8967.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Presentation
2. E-Bike Flyer

CB-2044 – Electrical Assisted Bicycles (E-Bikes) Amendments

Electrical Assisted Bicycles (E-Bikes)

James May, Jr.
Chief of Police
303.450.8967
jmay@northglenn.org

Council Meeting
Oct. 12, 2026



CITY OF
Northglenn

PURPOSE

To consider CB-2044, an ordinance on first reading amending Northglenn Municipal Code Chapter 7, Article 9 to address the operation of electrical assisted bikes (E-Bikes).



WHY UPDATE THE ORDINANCE?

- **Improve Safety:** Address growing concerns about higher-speed devices in parks, trails, and school areas.
- **Address Changing Technology:** Rapid growth in powerful e-bikes and emerging “e-motos” is creating new safety and enforcement challenges.
- **Clarify Rules:** Define e-bike classes so residents understand where each class is allowed.
- **Improve Consistency & Support Enforcement:** Updated rules would help align expectations for riders, families, and officers.



CLEAR DEFINITIONS FOR E-BIKE CLASSES

The draft ordinance defines e-bike classes by how the motor assists and when assistance stops:

Class	Motor Assistance	Assistance Stops At
1	Only while pedaling	20 mph
2	With or without pedaling	20 mph
3	Only while pedaling	28 mph



WHERE E-BIKES CAN OPERATE

- **Class 1 and Class 2 e-bikes would continue to be allowed on public streets and most trails.**
- **These e-bikes could be restricted from certain high-traffic roadways when a nearby parallel trail or path exists within 450 feet.**
- **Class 3 e-bikes would be prohibited in City parks, on City trails, or on other City recreational property, except in designated bike lanes.**



NEW SAFETY RULES FOR CLASS 3 RIDERS

To support youth safety:

- **Riders would have to be at least 16 years old to operate a Class 3 e-bike.**
- **Younger riders could ride as passengers if the bike is designed to carry them.**



SCHOOL AND PRIVATE PROPERTY RULES

- **Class 3 e-bikes would be treated like toy and unlicensed vehicles.**
- **They could not be operated on school grounds or private property unless the rider has written permission from the school district or property owner.**



PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

- **Parents and guardians would be responsible for ensuring minors comply with all e-bike rules.**
- **It would be unlawful to allow a minor to operate any e-bike in violation of the ordinance.**



NEW SIGN CREATED FOR TRAILS

RIDE READY!

Legal E-Bikes vs. Illegal E-Motos: Know The Difference

Electric bikes and other rideable devices are becoming more popular in Northglenn. Make sure you know what type of device you or your kids are using, where it's allowed, and what's required to ride safely!

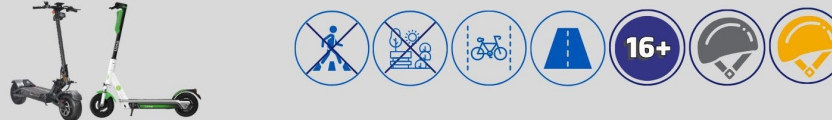
E-BIKES: CLASS 1 AND 2



E-BIKES: CLASS 3



STAND-UP ELECTRIC SCOOTERS



ELECTRIC SCOOTERS



E-MOTOS: NOT E-BIKES!



*Only street-legal e-motos are permitted on public streets/roads. Non-street legal e-motos = OHVs or Toy Vehicles → designated OHV trails or private property only.

	Allowed on sidewalks		Allowed on multi-use paths		Allowed in bike lanes		Allowed on streets/roads
	Not allowed on sidewalks		Not allowed on multi-use paths		Not allowed in bike lanes		Not allowed on streets/roads
	16+ age restriction		Insurance, license & registration required		Helmet required <18 years old		Helmet recommended for all ages



COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

New signs at Recreation Center and along trails throughout Northglenn

Information in Safe Street Halloween goodie bags distributed by HNCU and at the info booth

Social media campaign led by Police Department and shared on City social media accounts

Article in spring issues of the Connection to remind residents as warmer weather returns



NEXT STEPS

- **If CB-2044 is approved on first reading, a public hearing and second reading of the proposed ordinance will be scheduled for Oct. 26, 2026**



QUESTIONS?



CITY OF
Northglenn

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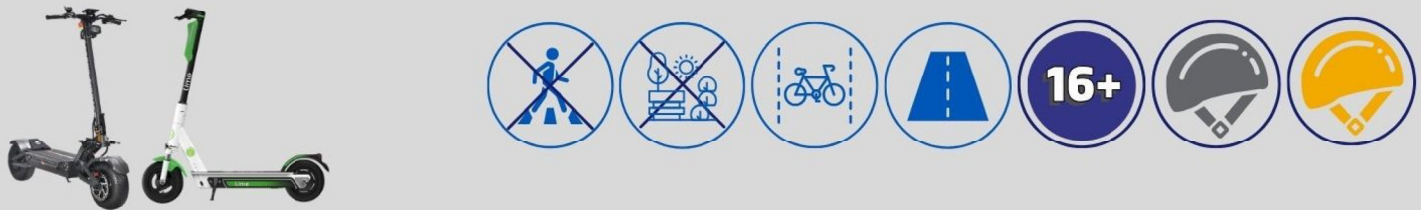
E-BIKES: CLASS 1 AND 2



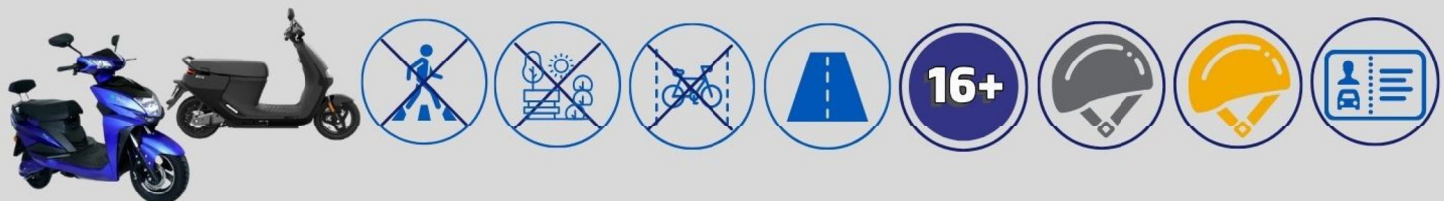
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Allowed on
sidewalks



Allowed on
multi-use paths



Allowed in
bike lanes



Allowed on
streets/roads



Not allowed
on sidewalks



Not allowed
on multi-use paths



Not allowed
in bike lanes



Not allowed on
streets/roads



16+ age
restriction



Insurance, license
& registration
required



Helmet required
<18 years old



Helmet
recommended
for all ages



SPONSORED BY: MAYOR LEIGHTY

COUNCIL MEMBER'S BILL

ORDINANCE NO.

No. CB-2044
Series of 2026

Series of 2026

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE 9 OF CHAPTER 7 OF THE NORTHGLENN MUNICIPAL CODE TO REGULATE THE OPERATION OF ELECTRICAL ASSISTED BICYCLES

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTHGLENN, COLORADO, THAT:

Section 1. Definitions. The definition of *Electric Assisted Bicycle* in Section 7-9-1 of the Northglenn Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Electrical Assisted Bicycles shall mean a vehicle having two or three wheels, fully operable pedals, and an electric motor not exceeding seven hundred fifty (750) watts of power. Electrical assisted bicycles ~~shall conform to the three classes as defined in C.R.S. § 42-1-102(28.5)~~ ARE FURTHER REQUIRED TO CONFORM TO ONE OF THREE CLASSES AS FOLLOWS:

(a) **CLASS 1 ELECTRICAL ASSISTED BICYCLE** SHALL MEAN AN ELECTRICAL ASSISTED 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 TWENTY (20) MILES PER HOUR.

(b) **CLASS 2 ELECTRICAL ASSISTED BICYCLE** SHALL MEAN AN ELECTRICAL ASSISTED BICYCLE EQUIPPED WITH A MOTOR THAT PROVIDES ASSISTANCE REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE RIDER IS PEDALING BUT CEASES TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE WHEN THE BICYCLE REACHES A SPEED OF TWENTY (20) MILES PER HOUR.

(c) **CLASS 3 ELECTRICAL ASSISTED BICYCLE** SHALL MEAN AN ELECTRICAL ASSISTED 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 TWENTY-EIGHT (28) MILES PER HOUR.

Section 2. Section 7-9-2, subsection (a) of the Northglenn Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 7-9-2. Use on Public Streets.

(a) **Electrical Assisted Bicycles.** Electrical assisted bicycles are permitted to be used on public streets; however, where the City has determined that a roadway is too highly

trafficked to safely allow for ~~such~~ CLASS 1 AND CLASS 2 ELECTRICAL ASSISTED bicycles and where a suitable bike path, horseback trail, or other trail parallel to or within ~~one-fourth of a mile~~ FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY (450) FEET of that right-of-way has been established, the City may erect a sign giving notice that CLASS 1 AND CLASS 2 electrical assisted bicycles are prohibited on that roadway.

Section 3. Section 7-9-3 of the Northglenn Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 7-9-3. Use on City Property.

(a) Except where otherwise posted, CLASS 1 AND CLASS 2 electrical assisted bicycles, EPAMDS, electric scooters, and OPDMDS are permitted to be used on trails and in certain park spaces, pursuant to the operating regulations set forth herein. The following spaces are excluded from use by CLASS 1 AND CLASS 2 electrical assisted bicycles, EPAMDS, electric scooters, and OPDMDS:

- (1) Playgrounds;
- (2) Tennis, basketball, pickleball, or other courts of similar nature and design;
and
- (3) Athletic fields.

(b) Prohibitions.

(1) It shall be unlawful for any person to use or operate a toy vehicle, electric scooter, or unlicensed vehicle upon any property owned by the City, within any City park, or on other publicly owned recreational facility property within the City in any location where duly authorized signs have been posted prohibiting such use.

(2) IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL FOR ANY PERSON TO USE OR OPERATE A CLASS 3 ELECTRICAL ASSISTED BICYCLE UPON ANY PROPERTY OWNED BY THE CITY EXCLUDING BIKE LANES, WITHIN ANY CITY PARK, ON ANY CITY TRAIL, OR ON OTHER PUBLICLY OWNED RECREATIONAL FACILITY PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY, REGARDLESS OF THEIR DESIGNATION AS ALLOWING OR DISALLOWING ELECTRICAL ASSISTED BICYCLES.

(3) IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL FOR ANY PERSON UNDER SIXTEEN YEARS OF AGE TO RIDE A CLASS 3 ELECTRICAL ASSISTED BICYCLE, EXCEPT THAT A PERSON UNDER SIXTEEN YEARS OF AGE MAY RIDE AS A PASSENGER ON A CLASS 3 ELECTRICAL ASSISTED BICYCLE THAT IS DESIGNED TO ACCOMMODATE PASSENGERS.

Section 4. Section 7-9-4 of the Northglenn Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 7-9-4. Use on School Grounds and Private Property.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to use or operate a CLASS 3 ELECTRICAL ASSISTED BICYCLE, toy vehicle, or unlicensed vehicle on any property owned by a school district or any public school grounds or campus including a parking lot unless such operation is specifically permitted by written order of the district superintendent of schools or their designated representative.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to use or operate a CLASS 3 ELECTRICAL ASSISTED BICYCLE, toy vehicle, or unlicensed vehicle on any private property within the City including parking lots and sidewalks unless by specific written order of the owner or designated representative of the owner of such property to the individual operating the CLASS 3 ELECTRICAL ASSISTED BICYCLE, toy vehicle or unlicensed vehicle.

Section 5. Section 7-9-5 of the Northglenn Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 7-9-5. Written Orders. The written orders specified in Sections ~~7-9-3~~, 7-9-4, ~~and 7-9-5~~ must be in possession of the person operating the CLASS 3 ELECTRICAL ASSISTED BICYCLE, electric scooter, toy vehicle, or unlicensed vehicle in prohibited areas during the time of such operation.

Section 6. Section 7-9-6 of the Northglenn Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 7-9-6. Parental Liability. It shall be unlawful for any parent, guardian, legal custodian, or any adult to authorize, assist, permit, or encourage any minor to operate ANY ELECTRICAL ASSISTED BICYCLE, electric scooter, toy vehicle or unlicensed vehicle in violation of the provisions of this Article 9.

* * *

INTRODUCED, READ AND ORDERED POSTED this ____ day of _____, 2026.

MEREDITH LEIGHTY
Mayor

ATTEST:

JOHANNA SMALL, MMC
City Clerk

PASSED ON SECOND AND FINAL READING this ____ day of _____,
2026.

MEREDITH LEIGHTY
Mayor

ATTEST:

JOHANNA SMALL, MMC
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

COREY Y. HOFFMANN
City Attorney