

Summary of Chapter 22

- Chapter 22 of the Code of Ordinances governs Traffic and Vehicles
- The proposed ordinance amends section 22-34 of the Code of Ordinances which addresses the enforcement of golf cart violations. That section presently provides for a graduated civil penalty for violations of the golf cart regulations. PBSO has requested a flat amount rather than a graduated penalty to facilitate enforcement by its officers. The amendment also modifies the penalty to mirror the statutory language, which distinguishes between moving and non-moving violations.
- The proposed ordinance introduces a new Article titled “Electric Bicycles, Motorized Scooters, and other Micromobility Devices”
- Chapter 316 of the Florida Statutes already contains provisions governing the operation of micromobility devices, including electric bicycles and motorized scooters, but it also authorizes local governments to enact ordinances imposing additional requirements to promote the safe operation of these devices in our communities.
- The ordinance is intended to supplement what is already codified under state law. For example, Florida law requires bicycle riders, e-bike riders, and motorized scooter riders under the age of 16 to wear a helmet. Failure to do so would still be enforced under state law, whether the ordinance is adopted or not.
- The additional requirements introduced by the ordinance pursuant to the applicable statutes are as follows:
 - The ordinance sets a minimum age for the operation of e-bikes and motorized scooters in Wellington. Staff in collaboration with PBSO has proposed the minimum age of 15.
 - It requires the operator of a e-bike or motorized scooter to carry government issued photographic identification. Such ID must, at a minimum, provide the name and date of birth of the operator.
 - It provides that e-bikes and motorized scooters can only be ridden on designated multi-modal pathways. This means they can only be ridden on those pathways and canal rights-of-way that are already designated for use by golf carts. They cannot be ridden on regular sidewalks or canal rights of way.
 - It sets a speed limit of 15 miles per hour on designated multi-modal pathways. This is required by the statute (and the same standard applies to golf carts).
 - It prohibits e-bikes and motorized scooters on public bridle trails.
 - It provides that restrictions on the operation of e-bikes and motorized scooters at Wellington facilities are addressed in Chapter 14 of the Code of Ordinances.
- The proposed ordinance also addresses enforcement, which is dictated by the Florida Statutes. A violation is a non-criminal traffic infraction punishable as a pedestrian violation as provided in chapter 318, Florida Statutes.