

CHAPTER 70: DEFINITIONS

BICYCLE: A device with an attached seat propelled by human power upon which a person rides astride or upon, regardless of the number and size of the wheels in contact with the ground.

BUSINESS DISTRICT: The area of town defined by the City of Fort Thomas Unified Development Ordinance as Central Business District (CBD), Traditional Business District (TBD).

ELECTRIC BICYCLES. A bicycle with operable pedals that can be propelled by both human and electric motor power.

ELECTRIC SCOOTERS. An electric low-speed scooter is a two wheel vehicle propelled by a motor, capable of speeds up to 20 mph, which a person generally stands on during operation. A person may sit during operations if equipped with a seat.

HIGH SPEED ELECTRIC SCOOTERS: An electric scooter capable of speeds in excess of 20mph.

CHAPTER 74: BICYCLES, SCOOTERS, AND SIMILAR DEVICES

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GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 74.01 APPLICATION OF TRAFFIC LAWS.

Every person riding a bicycle or electric scooter on a roadway shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle by the laws of this state declaring rules of the road applicable to vehicles or by the traffic code of this city applicable to the driver of a vehicle, except as to special regulations in this chapter and except as to those provisions of laws and ordinances which by their nature can have no application.

§ 74.02 COMPLIANCE REQUIRED; PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY.

(A) It is a misdemeanor for any person to do any act forbidden or fail to perform any act required in this chapter.

(B) 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 chapter.

(C) These regulations applicable to bicycles and electric scooters shall apply whenever a bicycle or electric scooter is operated on any street or on any public path set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles or electric scooters, subject to those exceptions stated herein.

§ 74.03 OBEDIENCE TO TRAFFIC-CONTROL DEVICES.

(A) Any person operating a bicycle or electric scooter shall obey the instructions of official traffic-control signals, signs, and other control devices applicable to vehicles, unless otherwise directed by a police officer.

(B) Whenever authorized signs are erected indicating that no right, left, or U-turn is permitted, no person operating a bicycle or electric scooters shall disobey the directions of any such signs, except where the person dismounts from the bicycle or electric scooter to make any such turn, in which event the person shall then obey the regulations applicable to pedestrians.

RULES OF OPERATION

§ 74.10 RIDING ON SEAT.

A person propelling operating a bicycle or electric scooter shall not ride other than astride a permanent and regular seat attached thereto.

§ 74.11 NUMBER OF RIDERS.

No bicycle or electric scooter shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped.

§ 74.12 RIDING ON ROADWAYS OR BICYCLE PATHS.

(A) Every person operating a bicycle or electric scooter on a roadway shall ride as near to the right-hand side of the roadway as practicable, exercising due care when passing a standing vehicle or one proceeding in the same direction.

(B) Persons riding bicycles or electric scooters on a roadway shall not ride more than two abreast except on paths or parts of roadways set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles or electric scooters.

(C) Whenever a usable path for bicycles or electric scooters has been provided adjacent to a roadway bicycle riders shall use the path and shall not use the roadway.

§ 74.13 RIDING ON SIDEWALKS.

(A) No person shall ride any electric bicycle or a high speed electric scooter on a sidewalk within the city.

(B) No person shall ride any bicycle or electric scooter on a sidewalk within a business district.

(C) Whenever any person is riding a bicycle or electric scooter on a sidewalk, the person shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and shall give audible signal before overtaking and passing the pedestrian.

§ 74.14 SPEED.

No person shall operate a bicycle or electric scooter at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions then existing.

§ 74.15 PARKING.

No person shall park a bicycle or electric scooter on a street other than on the roadway against the curb or on the sidewalk in a rack to support the bicycle or electric scooter or against a building or at the curb, in such manner as to afford the least obstruction to pedestrian traffic.

§ 74.16 EMERGING FROM ALLEY OR DRIVEWAY.

The operator of a bicycle or electric scooter emerging from an alley, driveway, or building shall, upon approaching a sidewalk area extending across any alleyway, yield the right-of-way to all pedestrians approaching on the sidewalk or sidewalk area, and upon entering the roadway shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles approaching on the roadway.

§ 74.17 CLINGING TO VEHICLES.

No person riding on any bicycle or electric scooter shall attach the bicycle or electric scooter or himself to any vehicle on a roadway.

§ 74.18 CROSSWALK

No person shall ride their bicycle or electric scooter across a crosswalk within the City of Fort Thomas. Bicycles and electric scooters shall be walked across all crosswalks.

§ 74.19 EQUIPMENT.

(A) Every bicycle or electric scooter when in use at night time 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 of a type which shall be visible from all distances from 50 feet to 300 feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful upper beams of headlamps on a motor vehicle. A lamp emitting a red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear may be used in addition to the red reflector.

(B) No person shall operate a bicycle or electric scooter unless it is equipped with a bell or other device capable of giving a signal audible for a distance of at least 100 feet, except that a bicycle or electric scooter shall not be equipped with nor shall any persons use on bicycle any siren or whistle.

(C) Every bicycle or electric scooter shall be equipped with a brake which will enable the operator to make the braked wheel skid on dry, level, clean pavement safely stop the bicycle or electric scooter.

Statutory reference:

Bicycle riders and bicycles complying with state safety regulations exempt from municipal regulations as to safety equipment, see KRS 189.287

§ 74.99 PENALTY.

Every person convicted of a violation of any provisions of this chapter shall be punished by a fine of \$25 or by impounding the person's bicycle or electric scooter for a period not to exceed 60 days, or by any combination thereof.