



**CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS REPORT**

**TO:** THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** MIKE POSEY, CITY COUNCIL MEMBER  
NATALIE MOSER, CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

**DATE:** APRIL 5, 2021

**SUBJECT: DIRECTING STAFF TO DEVELOP MUNICIPAL CODE ADJUSTMENTS TO REVISE  
EXISTING E-BIKE USE REGULATIONS ON THE CITY’S BEACH PATH**

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**BACKGROUND**

In 2017, the City enacted changes to Huntington Beach Municipal Code Section 13.08.280, related to vehicle use restrictions at the beach and on the City’s beach path. Per the adjustment that was made, the revised regulations currently stipulate the following:

*“No Person shall operate or possess any motor-driven cycle, motor-driven bicycle, motorcycle, automobile, motor truck or other motorized vehicle or conveyance (regardless of power source or size) on the Beach or Adjacent Beach Area other than for law enforcement, lifesaving or emergency purposes, or for Beach maintenance purposes, except by permit issued by the Director; nor on any roads on which signs are posted prohibiting such activity, nor in any manner or direction prohibited by posted signs, nor on any Beach or Adjacent Beach Area other than on the roads, drives or parking areas designed for such purposes.”*

In effect, these existing rules constitute a ban on the use of e-bikes on the City’s beach path. During the pandemic, as more individuals have purchased and used e-bikes, there have been a notable number of complaints received by the City regarding unsafe e-bike usage. However, while public safety issues certainly exist on the beach path today, those concerns are associated with the mixing of pedestrians, bikers, skaters, and other types of users, because of the speed differentiation between the various mixed transportation modes. Certainly, regular bikes or skaters can create the same public safety concern as e-bikes when moving at high speeds.

To that end, we would suggest that the City Council direct staff to develop updated municipal code adjustments that would allow e-bike usage on the City’s beach path, while simultaneously developing regulatory, infrastructure, and speed enforcement plans to better manage and monitor user speed on the bike path.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

We recommend that the City Council direct staff to develop for consideration an overall beach path safety management plan that would include updated municipal code language allowing the use of e-bikes, coupled with other regulatory, infrastructure, and speed enforcement plans.