

ORDINANCE 24-25

AN ORDINANCE ADDING SECTIONS 373.15, .16, .17, .18, AND 301.101 IN THE DOVER CODIFIED ORDINANCES (DCO) CONCERNING THE REGULATION OF ELECTRIC SCOOTERS.

WHEREAS, the City of Dover sees a need to regulate “E-Scooters” within the city of Dover; and WHEREAS, the changes were reviewed by the Dover City Council; and WHEREAS, Dover City Council determines that the below language shall be added to the Dover Codified Ordinances under Part Three-Traffic Code, which shall reflect those changes; and WHEREAS, council has determined that said changes are in the best interests of the citizens of Dover.

NOW AND THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE DOVER CITY COUNCIL:

I.

That Council incorporates the preambles and caption of this ordinance as if fully restated hereinafter. Council amends Dover Codified Ordinances Title Nine under Part Three-Traffic Code to read as follows:

TITLE NINE-PEDESTRIANS, BICYCLES, ELECTRIC SCOOTERS, AND MOTORCYCLES

§ 373.15 ELECTRIC SCOOTERS.

§373.15 CODE APPLICATION TO ELECTRIC SCOOTERS.

(a) The provisions of this Traffic Code that are applicable to Electric Scooters apply whenever an Electric Scooter is operated upon any street, sidewalk, or upon any path set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, an Electric Scooter operator who violates any section of this Traffic Code described in subsection (a) of this section that is applicable to Electric Scooters may be issued a ticket, citation, or summons by a law enforcement officer for the violation in the same manner as the operator of a motor vehicle would be cited for the same violation.

(c) The provisions of this Traffic code shall apply to Electric Scooters except those which by their nature are not applicable.

(d) A person who commits a traffic violation while operating an Electric Scooter shall not have any points assessed against the person’s driver’s license, commercial license, temporary instruction permit, or probationary license under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4510.

373.16 REQUIRED EQUIPMENT FOR ELECTRIC SCOOTERS.

(a) An Electric Scooter which is operated on city streets or sidewalks in the City of Dover, shall have:

- 1) Handlebars;
- 2) Two wheels, one in front and one in back;
- 3) An electric motor (solely powered by the electric motor and/or human power); and
- 4) If operated at night:
 - a. A reflector light in the back
 - b. A lamp pointed forward in the front.

(b) Whoever violates this section, is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

§373.17 OPERATIONS RESTRICTIONS FOR ELECTRIC SCOOTERS.

(a) Operators of Electric Scooters must adhere to the following restrictions:

- 1) Electric Scooters cannot be operated on streets or highways with speed limits higher than 35 mph.
- 2) Electric Scooters cannot exceed 20 mph.
- 3) Electric Scooter riders must wear a helmet unless they are at least 18 years old.
- 4) Electric Scooter riders must stand on the standing board while riding.
- 5) Not more than one rider per Electric Scooter is permitted.
- 6) Riders shall not carry items that require both hands, a rider must keep at least one hand on the steering handlebars at all times.
- 7) Riders cannot operate an Electric Scooter without due regard for safety, exercising reasonable and ordinary control over the device.
- 8) Riders cannot weave or zigzag while operating an Electric Scooter.
- 9) Riders must yield to and give audible signals to pedestrians.

(b) Whoever violates this section, is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

§373.18 RIDING ON SIDEWALKS.

(a) No person shall operate an Electric Scooter upon a sidewalk within a business district or upon a sidewalk where signs are erected prohibiting such operation.

(b) (b) Whoever violates this section, is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to one predicate motor vehicle or traffic offense, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree. If, within one year of the offense, the offender previously has been convicted of two or more predicate motor vehicle or traffic offenses, whoever violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

II.

Council amends Dover Codified Ordinance §301 to add new §301.101 to define Electric Scooters. Newly added §301.101 of the Dover Codified Ordinances Title One under Part Three-Traffic Code, shall read as follows:

§301.101 ELECTRIC SCOOTERS.

“Electric Scooter” shall mean a device weighing less than one hundred fifty (150) pounds that has handlebars, is propelled by an electric motor or human power, and has an attainable speed on a paved level surface speeds exceeding 10 mph.


III.

That this ordinance shall take and remain effect at the earliest period allowed by law.

IV.

That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this ordinance were taken in conformance with all applicable open meeting laws and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in those formal actions were in compliance with all legal requirements including open meeting requirements.

Passed on this 7th day of July, 2025



President of Council

Attest:



Zoie Arnett
Clerk of Council

Approved this 7th day of July, 2025.



Mayor Shane Gunnoe

Publish summary once and on the city and state web site
Recommended by the Safety and Human Resources Committee