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CITY OF MYRTLE BEACH
COUNTY OF HORRY
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

TO AMEND THE CITY OF MYRTLE BEACH
CODE OF ORDINANCES TO ADD
CHAPTER 12, ARTICLE VII RELATING TO
USE OF PERSONAL ELECTRIC DEVICES
(PEDs).

WHEREAS, the Myrtle Beach City Council has the authority to adopt and provide for the enactment of such ordinances, not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the State of South Carolina, to promote and protect the health, comfort, convenience, general welfare, and safety of its residents and visitors and to preserve the peace and maintain order within its borders; and

WHEREAS, the number of electric scooters (“e-scooters”) and other personal electric devices used on public rights-of-way has increased dramatically; and

WHEREAS, City Council finds it necessary to regulate the use of e-scooters and other personal electric devices on the public rights-of-way and other City property in order to preserve and protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED that the City of Myrtle Beach Code of Ordinances is amended by adding Chapter 12, Article VII as follows:

Sec. 12-154. Definitions.

- (a) For purposes of this article, the following terms shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates that a different meaning is intended:
 - (1) *Personal electric device (PED)* means an electric-powered wheeled device, including stand-up devices and seated devices. The term does not include an electric personal assistive mobility device (EPAMD) as defined in S.C. Code Ann. § 56-5-3310(A). This term also does not include an electric-assist bicycle (e-bike) or bicycle with helper motor as defined in S.C. Code Ann. § 56-1-10;
 - (2) *Multi-use path* has the same meaning as set forth in Sec. 12-160;
 - (3) *Mobile electronic device* means a cellular phone, portable computer, GPS receiver, or any substantially similar device;
 - (4) *Sidewalk* has the same meaning as set forth in Sec. 19-4(c).

Sec. 12-155. Regulating the use of Personal Electric Devices (PEDs).

- (a) A person operating a PED upon a roadway must be granted all the rights and is subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle by Chapter 5 of Title 56 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, except for the provisions of Chapter 5 of Title 56 which by their nature can have no application and except for the provisions of Chapter 12 of the Myrtle Beach Code of Ordinances addressing PEDs.

- 1 (b) It shall be unlawful for any person using a PED to:
2 (1) Go upon any roadway designed for vehicular travel with a posted speed limit
3 of more than thirty (30) miles per hour, except while crossing at an
4 intersection-crosswalk;
5 (2) Go upon any public sidewalk;
6 (3) Unless designated otherwise, operate the device on any city owned or
7 operated property, including but not limited to parking garages, parking lots,
8 parks, or other recreational or green space;
9 (4) Operate the PED carrying more than the number of persons it is designed
10 and equipped to carry;
11 (5) Operate the PED at a speed faster than twenty (20) miles per hour;
12 (6) Operate the PED in a reckless manner on any roadway, bicycle lane, or
13 multi-use path; or
14 (7) Operate the PED while holding or supporting a mobile electronic device with
15 any part of the body; while reading, composing, or transmitting any text,
16 including but not limited to a text message, email, application interaction, or
17 website information on a mobile electronic device; while watching motion,
18 including but not limited to a video, movie, game, or video call on a mobile
19 electronic device; or while otherwise engaged in an activity that is not
20 necessary to the operation of the PED and which impairs or is reasonably
21 expected to impair the ability of the person to safely operate the PED.
22 (c) Persons operating a PED shall at all times exercise due care, yield the right-of-
23 way to pedestrians, and give an audible signal before overtaking and passing a
24 pedestrian.
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26 **Sec. 12-156. Riding in bicycle lanes and on roadways.**

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28 The following provisions apply when a PED is operated on a roadway designed for
29 vehicular travel with a posted speed limit of thirty (30) miles per hour or less:
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- 31 (a) Whenever a bicycle lane has been provided adjacent to the roadway, PEDs are
32 required to ride in the bicycle lane except when necessary to pass another
33 operator or to avoid an obstruction in the bicycle lane.
34 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c), every PED shall be ridden as near to the
35 right side of the roadway as practicable. A PED operator, may but is not required
36 to, ride on the shoulder of the roadway in order to comply with the requirements
37 of this subsection.
38 (c) A PED may be ridden in a lane other than the right-hand lane only if one lane is
39 available that permits the PED to continue on the intended route.
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43 **Sec. 12-157. Signaling Turns.**
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- 45 (a) A PED operator shall indicate a right turn by extending the left arm upward, by
46 raising the left arm upward to a square, or by extending the right arm horizontally
47 to the right.
48 (b) A PED operator shall indicate a left turn by extending the left arm horizontally.
49 (c) A PED operator shall indicate stopping or decreasing speed by extending the left
50 arm or the right arm downward.

- 1 (d) A PED operator is not required to give the signals provided for in this section
- 2 continuously if the hand or arm is needed to control the PED.
- 3 (e) A violation of this section is punishable by a fine of \$25.00.
- 4

5 **Sec. 12-158. Required Equipment for Personal Electric Devices (PEDs).**

6
7 Between the hours of sunset and sunrise, a PED must be equipped with an operable
8 lamp on the front which must emit a white light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet
9 to the front and with a red reflector on the rear that must be visible from all distances
10 from 50 feet to 300 feet to the rear when directly in front of the lawful upper beams of
11 head lamps on a motor vehicle. A lamp emitting a red light visible from a distance of 500
12 feet to the rear may be used in addition to the red reflector.


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14 **Sec. 12-159. Penalties.**

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16 Except as otherwise set forth herein, violators of this article are subject to a fine of
17 \$100.00 and/or up to thirty (30) days' imprisonment.

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20 This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

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22 SIGNED AND SEALED this 14th day of October 2025.

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26 BRENDA BETHUNE, MAYOR

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28
29 ATTEST
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31
32 JENNIFER ADKINS, CITY CLERK

33
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35 First reading: 9.23.25
36 Second reading: 10.14.25