

CITY OF MYRTLE BEACH
COUNTY OF HORRY
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

AN ORDINANCE TO ENACT CHAPTER 12,
MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, A NEW
ARTICLE VI, SHARED MOBILITY DOCKLESS
ELECTRIC SCOOTERS AND BICYCLES, AND
UNFRANCHISED RENTAL SCOOTERS.

IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED THAT CHAPTER 12, ARTICLE VI OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE
CITY OF MYRTLE BEACH IS HEREBY ENACTED TO READ IN ITS ENTIRETY AS FOLLOWS:

ARTICLE VI. SHARED MOBILITY DOCKLESS ELECTRIC SCOOTERS AND BICYCLES, AND
UNFRANCHISED RENTAL SCOOTERS

Sec. 12-250. Findings and Purpose

Dockless electric scooters and bicycles available to be rented on demand from unstaffed
locations have been shown to arrive unexpectedly and proliferate rapidly. These devices are
unregulated, often abandoned by their users in unapproved parking, resulting in obstruction
and danger in our streets, sidewalks, parks, boardwalks and other public places. This results in
a serious public safety concern, especially for the City's most vulnerable pedestrians, and those
areas under the protections of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The users are often minors,
operating without training of safety equipment, such as helmets. The business rarely apply for
franchise, which is required, and eschew business licensing.

The purpose of this chapter is to preserve public safety by prohibiting shared mobility devices
or motors scooters from being placed in the public right-of-way or on public property, operated
in the public right-of-way or on public property, or offered for use anywhere in the City, so as
to allow for adequate pedestrian traffic flow and to promote public safety.

This Article does not apply to pedal operated bicycles rented to consumers by a properly
licensed business.

Sec. 12-251. DEFINITIONS:

"Shared mobility device" means any wheeled device, other than an automobile or motorcycle,
that is powered by a motor; is accessed via an on-demand portal, whether a smartphone
application, membership card, or similar method; is operated by a private entity that owns,
manages, and maintains devices for shared use by members of the public; and is available to
members of the public in unstaffed, self-service locations, except for those locations which are
designated by the City under franchise.

"Motorized scooter" shall mean a two-wheeled device that has handlebars, a floorboard that
is designed to be stood upon when riding, and is powered by an electric motor or by a source
other than electric power.

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2 Sec. 12-252, GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:
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- 4 A. It is unlawful to park, leave standing, leave lying, abandon, or otherwise place a shared
5 mobility device or unfranchised rented motor scooter in a public right-of-way or rented
6 scooter on public property anywhere within the City.
7 B. It is unlawful to operate a shared mobility device or scooter in a public right-of-way or
8 on public property anywhere within the City.
9 C. It is unlawful to provide or offer for use a shared mobility device or rented scooter
10 anywhere within the City.
11 D. Law enforcement officers, parking enforcement officers, those City code officials
12 designated by the City Manager, and any party contracted by the City to specifically
13 impound shared mobility devices or unfranchised rental motor scooters are authorized
14 to impound the device.
15 E. Any shared mobility device or motor scooter, rented or otherwise, left physically
16 unattended on the public property may be removed and held by the city for forty-
17 eight (48) hours. A confiscated motorized scooter shall be released upon proof of
18 ownership and payment of a \$100.00 dollar (\$100.00) fee for removal and storage.
19 Motorized scooters held for over forty-eight (48) hours may be disposed of by
20 discarding, donation, auction, or any other manner deemed appropriate by the city.
21 The city shall bear no responsibility to a motorized scooter owner or operator for loss
22 of or damage to a confiscated motor scooter, including any chain or locking
23 mechanism, in its enforcement of this section.
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25 Sec. 12-254. Penalties
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- 27 A. Violations of this chapter shall be punishable as a misdemeanor as provided for in
28 Chapter 1, Section 1-9 of the Code of Ordinances of Myrtle Beach.
29 B. The provision of a shared mobility device by a licensed business owner may result in the
30 suspension or revocation of the business license.
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32 This ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.
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36 ATTEST:

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39 JENNIFER STANFORD, CITY CLERK
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BRENDA BETHUNE, MAYOR

41 1st Reading: May 28, 2019

42 2nd Reading: June 11, 2019