

Electric Bicycles and Motorized Scooters



Central Marin Police Authority



Vehicle Code Definitions

CVC 312.5 (a)- Electric Bicycle

An electric bicycle is a bicycle equipped with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of less than 750 watts. Three classes of e-bikes have been established.



E-Bike Classifications

CLASS 1



20 mph
pedal assist only
no throttle

A "Class 1 electric bike" or "low-speed pedal-assisted bicycle" is a bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a top speed of 20 mph.

CLASS 2



20 mph
throttle assist
pedal assist

A "Class 2 electric bike" or "low-speed throttle-assisted bicycle" is a bicycle equipped with a motor that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle, and that is not capable of providing assistance when the bicycle reaches a top speed of 20 mph.

CLASS 3







28 mph
pedal assist
no throttle*

A "Class 3 electric bike" or "speed pedal-assisted bicycle" is a bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a top speed of 28 mph, and is equipped with a speedometer.



E-Bike Laws

CALIFORNIA	Vehicle		User				Bike Access			
	Pedal Operated	Max Assisted Speed	Minimum Age (yrs)	Driver's License	License Plate	Helmet	Class 1 Bike Path	Class 2 Bike Lane	Class 3 Bike Route	Class 4 Protected Lane
 BICYCLE	YES	N/A	N/A	NO	NO	17 AND UNDER	YES	YES	YES	YES
 TYPE 1 EBIKE	YES	20	N/A	NO	NO	17 AND UNDER	YES	YES	YES	YES
 TYPE 2 EBIKE	NO	20	N/A	NO	NO	17 AND UNDER	YES	YES	YES	YES
 TYPE 3 EBIKE	YES	28	16	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES
 MOPED	NO	N/A	16	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO



Vehicle Code Definitions

CVC 407.5 (a)- Motorized Scooter

Any two-wheeled device that has handlebars, has either a floorboard that is designed to be stood upon when riding or a seat and footrests in place of the floorboard, and is powered by an electric motor.



Examples of Motorized Scooter





Motorized Scooter Laws

CVC 21221- Motorized Scooter Obey Rules of the Road

Every person operating a motorized scooter upon a highway has all the rights and is subject to all the provisions applicable to the driver of a vehicle by this division, including, but not limited to, provisions concerning driving under the influence of alcoholic beverages or drugs.

CVC 22411- Motorized scooter maximum speed is 15 mph

CVC 21235 (g)- Unlawful to ride motorized scooter on a sidewalk



Motorized Scooter Laws

CVC 21235- Operating a motorized scooter

The operator of a motorized scooter shall not do any of the following:

- (c) Operate a motorized scooter without wearing a properly fitted and fastened bicycle helmet that meets the standards described in Section 21212, if the operator is under 18 years of age.
- (d) Operate a motorized scooter without a valid driver's license or instruction permit.
- (e) Operate a motorized scooter with any passengers in addition to the operator.
- (g) Operate a motorized scooter upon a sidewalk, except as may be necessary to enter or leave adjacent property.



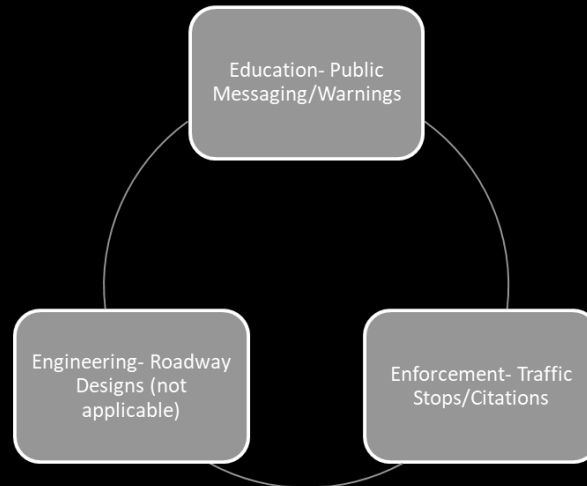
What are the Issues?

- Significant increase in the volume of complaints CMPA has received since beginning of school year
- Most complaints coincide with high school and middle school hours (before school travel, lunch time, and after school travel)
- Concern about general traffic safety regarding these modes of transportation
- Complaints of unsafe operation and poor behavior by juveniles in parks



Three E's of Traffic Safety

- Education- Public Messaging/Warnings
- Enforcement- Traffic Stops/Citations
- Engineering- Roadway Designs (not applicable)





What has CMPA Done?

- Sent multiple public education campaigns through Nixle and Nextdoor
- Worked with school districts to help educate students (school newsletters, video messaging, school resource officer)
- Officers to focus their enforcement efforts during school hours. (Over 100 traffic stops, and approximately 50% result in a citation issued)