

Ord. 19-09: Scooter Regulations

Scope: Applies to individually-owned and shared-use motorized scooters

1. Licensing

- A. The Board of Public Works will issue licenses to scooter companies.
- B. The amount is not yet set and will be determined based on the costs of enforcement and administration.
- C. The BPW can also determine how many scooters a scooter company can deploy in Bloomington.

AMENDMENTS

Am. 04: Limits the number of shared-use scooters to 200 per company and 600 total in the city (Granger)

2. Parking

- A. Rules applicable to the downtown dismount zone
 - Scooter parking is allowed only at bike racks or in painted boxes on the street.
- B. Rules applicable to all other areas
 - Cannot restrict a clear pathway at least 54 inches wide on sidewalks
 - Cannot impede access to mailboxes, ramps, fire hydrants, car parking spaces, driveways, parking meters, commercial window displays, etc.

AMENDMENTS

- Am. 07: Disallows scooter parking on sidewalks and instead calls for providing painted boxes on the street for scooter parking (Piedmont-Smith)
- Am. 08: Changes all reference to painted boxes for scooter and bike parking to “corrals” and requires such corrals are designed to prevent scooters and bicycles from falling into the public right-of-way (Piedmont-Smith)

3. Scooter Use

Not allowed on sidewalks in the downtown dismount zone

On other sidewalks, the same rules apply as for bicycles:

- Must yield right-of-way to pedestrians
- Must leave at least 3 feet between scooter and pedestrian you are passing
- Must dismount when passing pedestrian who is blind
- Must give audible signal before passing a pedestrian traveling in the same direction

Shared-use scooters limited to 1 rider only who must be at least 18

Speed limit of 15 mph

Shared-use scooter rides cannot be initiated between 10:01 pm and 5:59 am

AMENDMENTS

- Am. 01: Bans scooter use on sidewalks but still allows it on multi-use trails like the B-Line (Rollo & Sturbaum)
- Am. 03: Limits speed to 10 mph (Granger & Rollo)
- Am. 06: Increases the area of the downtown dismount zone (Piedmont-Smith)

- Am. 12: Deletes the ban on initiating rides on shared-use scooters at night (Sandberg, Granger & Ruff)

4. Equipment and safety

- A. Scooter companies must limit speed of machines to 15 mph
- B. The companies must be able to immediately and remotely lock down a scooter in case of equipment failure
- C. Company must remove defective scooter within 2 hours and fix it or remove it permanently

5. Data

- A. Scooter companies must share real-time data with the city
- B. Data must be anonymized, meaning city can't trace it back to any individual user

6. Public Outreach

- A. Companies must provide Bloomington-specific rules to its users via mobile app
- B. Companies must provide a Bloomington-specific web page for users
- C. Companies must engage in two public safety campaigns or more per year
- D. Companies must make helmets available free at a Bloomington location

7. Affordability

Scooter companies must offer a 50% discount to any riders who can demonstrate participation in any federal, state, or local assistance program

8. Enforcement

- A. Fines against users: \$20 for use violations; \$30 for parking violations
- B. Penalties against the companies:
 - Impoundment: \$100 fee plus \$10/day storage, plus \$150 for disposal if not picked up
 - Termination of license to operate in the city

AMENDMENTS

- Am. 05: Adds a "Whereas" clause at the beginning of the ordinance asking the Administration to hire at least one additional police officer for scooter enforcement (Granger, Rollo & Sturbaum)