

## **Chapter 11.00 ELECTRIC PERSONAL ASSISTIVE MOBILITY DEVICE AND MICROMOBILITY DEVICES; I.E. ELECTRIC SCOOTERS.**

### **2.1-11.01 PURPOSE.**

The purpose of this section is to permit and regulate the safe operation of "electric scooter" type devices as defined below within the city limits of Buffalo.

(Ord. 2025-24, passed 9-22-2025)

### **2.1-11.02 DEFINITIONS.**

For the purpose of this section, the following definitions shall apply unless the context clearly indicates or requires a different meaning.

***ELECTRIC PERSONAL ASSISTIVE MOBILITY DEVICE.*** Has the same meaning as set forth under Iowa Code § 321.1(20B).

***MICROMOBILITY DEVICE.*** Any device not an electric personal assistive mobility device and not a bicycle or low-speed electric bicycle, designed to carry one rider or operator, where such device is equipped with an electric motor of less than 750 watts, and where such device is not required to be licensed or registered by the State of Iowa. ***MICROMOBILITY DEVICES*** may be propelled either by the power of the rider or by an electric motor or a combination thereof. ***MICROMOBILITY DEVICES*** include, but are not limited to, electric unicycles, electric tricycles, electric stand-up scooters, electric sit-down scooters, and motorized skateboards.

(Ord. 2025-24, passed 9-22-2025)

### **2.1-11.03 SAFE OPERATION OF ELECTRIC PERSONAL ASSISTIVE AND MICROMOBILITY DEVICES.**

(A) Electric personal assistive mobility devices may be operated on sidewalks and shared use path as defined in city code in accordance with this section and the provisions of Iowa Code § 321.235A.

(B) Micromobility devices may be operated on sidewalks and shared use paths in accordance with this section.

(C) A person who operates an electric personal assistive mobility device or micromobility device shall exercise caution to avoid colliding with any pedestrian, shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian, and shall not operate the device in such a manner as to indicate a willful or wanton disregard for the safety of people.

(D) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate an electric personal assistive mobility device or a micromobility device upon any publicly owned property at a speed greater than 20 mph.

(E) A person who operates an electric personal assistive mobility device or micromobility device shall obey the rules of the road.

(F) No person shall operate a micromobility device upon any road with a posted speed limit of greater than 25 mph.

(G) All electric personal assistive mobility devices and micromobility devices shall only carry one person at a time.

(H) All electric personal assistive mobility devices and micromobility devices used during the hours from sunset to sunrise shall display, or their drivers shall wear, a lamp on the front part of the device, and the lamp shall emit a white light visible from a distance of at least 300 feet from the front of the device and a red visible light from a distance of at least 300 feet from the back of the device.

(I) All electric personal assistive mobility devices and micromobility devices operated on the road must be equipped with a high visibility colored flag unless the device is intended to be operated while the rider is standing upright.

(J) All electric personal assistive mobility devices and micromobility devices operated by a resident must be registered with the Chief of Police.

(Ord. 2025-24, passed 9-22-2025)

#### **2.1-11.04 PENALTY.**

Violations of this chapter are a simple misdemeanor punishable by a 48 hours impoundment for a first offense, by order of the Chief of Police. Second offenses are subject to a \$25 fine. Subsequent offenses are simple misdemeanors punishable in accordance with the standard city criminal penalty and may result in permanent revocation of privileges to use electric personal assistive mobility devices and micromobility devices upon city roads and sidewalks.

(Ord. 2025-24, passed 9-22-2025)