

ARTICLE I DEFINITIONS

(Changes and additions)

Sec 1.50 VEHICLE: *(change)*

Every device in, upon or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a highway. These include bicycles, scooters, inline skates and skateboards when the provisions of these rules are applicable to them, except other devices moved by human power or used by stationary rails or tracks.

Sec. 1.53 SCOOTER: *(addition)*

A vehicle consisting of a long foot board between two small end wheels, aligned in a linear fashion, controlled by an upright steering handle attached to the front wheel, which is powered by a human or a motor.

Sec 1.54 SKATEBOARD: *(addition)*

A non-motorized vehicle consisting of a long foot board between two sets of wheels, with steering controlled by weight distribution.

** This definition is brought to you by a combination of suggestions from the Webster dictionary, Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles, Susan Clippinger and Wayne Amaral.*

ARTICLE XXII REGULATIONS FOR SCOOTERS, INLINE SKATES AND SKATEBOARDS

Sec. 22.1 REQUIRED EQUIPMENT.

Every scooter, inline skate, or skateboard operated upon a way shall be equipped with a braking system to enable the operator to bring the scooter, inline skate, or skateboard to a smooth safe stop within fifteen (15) feet on a dry, clean, hard, level surface.

Sec. 22.2 RIDING ON SIDEWALKS

(a) Pedestrians have the right of way on all sidewalks. The operator of a scooter, inline skate, or skateboard shall yield to pedestrians in all traffic situations.

(b) The operator of a scooter, inline skate or skateboard shall ride at a speed no greater than an ordinary walking speed when on a sidewalk or while entering or exiting a sidewalk.

(c) The operator of a scooter, inline skate, or skateboard shall give an audible warning before passing a pedestrian far enough in advance to allow the pedestrian time to react.

(d) No person shall operate a scooter, inline skate, or skateboard on a sidewalk in a manner that endangers or would potentially endanger any person.

(e) No person shall operate a scooter, inline skate, or skateboard on a way or on public property in a manner that damages, defaces or vandalizes public property.

Sec. 22.3 RIDING BANNED ON CERTAIN STREETS AND DISTRICTS

(a) No person shall ride a scooter, inline skate, or skateboard on any sidewalk within a business district as defined in Article I.

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(b) No person shall ride a scooter, inline skate, or skateboard on any sidewalk described in schedule 4B attached to and made part of these regulations and which has been posted with appropriate signs.

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3.

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE • EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Robert W. Healy, City Manager

Richard C. Rossi, Deputy City Manager

February 25, 2002

To The Honorable, The City Council:

In response to Council Order No. 02-09, regarding the regulations of motorized scooters, please be advised of the following:

There is a traffic regulation, which prohibits both motorized and non-motorized scooters from certain streets and districts (as defined by Article I of the Traffic Regulations). Further, Sec. 22.2 of Article XXII of the Traffic Regulations regulates the use of scooters on all sidewalks. Violations will be enforced when officers observe a violation of the traffic regulation. The Registry of Motor Vehicles does not regulate motorized scooters. They have considered doing so, however, legislation is necessary and there has been no statute enacted to date in Massachusetts. Massachusetts General Laws, Chapters 89 and 90 do not apply to motorized scooters.

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mec
Attachments

S-62

Consent Agenda #3

**Awaiting Report Item Number
02-09**, regarding the regulations
of motorized scooters.

In City Council February 25, 2002

Referred to the
Public Safety
Committee

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