

Council Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. The following **targeted clarifications** keep the draft aligned with Florida law and improve readability for riders, parents, and enforcement.

— Andy

Recommended Modifications (keyed to the first reading ordinance)

Page 3 of 7

7. Correct term + wattage + labeling

Change **“Electronic”** bike to **“Electric Bicycle”** (E-Bike).

Change power reference to: **“an electric motor of 750 watts or less”**. That is the correct industry terminology.

Also add manufacturer label requirements: **All E-bikes shall have a permanently affixed label that contains the classification number, top assisted speed, and motor wattage. FS (316.20655(3))**

8. Modify definition to read: Electric **OFFROAD** powered cycles have no operable pedals, have motors that exceed 750 watts and/or are capable of exceeding 28 MPH via motor power.

Page 4 of 7

13. Add **public school ID** for minors.

2. Electric Bike or E-Bike - Operating Rules:

a. Add the following to the end of subsection (a): **“When operating on sidewalks and paths, E-bike operators shall comply with all pedestrian traffic signs and intersection signalization.”**

b. Add more examples of “reckless” to include, but not limited to **“failure to yield, failure to slow when passing pedestrians, failure to give an audible signal when passing, failure to operate with due care, and excessive speed.”**

c. Add to the beginning of section (c): **“The e-bike shall display the manufacturer’s class label; tampering that alters class characteristics without relabeling is prohibited.”** FS
(316.20655)

Page 5 of 7

2.e. This section is nearly the same as FS (316.2065)(10). Just repeat the statute language and reference the statute number as follows: **“A person propelling a bicycle upon and along a sidewalk, or across a roadway upon and along a crosswalk, shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and shall give an audible signal before overtaking and passing such pedestrian.” FS (316.2065)(10)**

General Comments:

On page 5 of 7, Section 2.e, you removed the 10 MPH speed limit on sidewalks. I support this change. As was stated by public speakers at the prior workshop, overall our sidewalks are not generally crowded. Speed limits along empty stretches of sidewalks and paths are not needed, if we eliminate illegal electric offroad cycles as proposed.

With **no numeric cap**, you still have enforceable rules to promote safety on sidewalks and paths:

- **Pedestrian Yield + audible-signal** responsibilities on sidewalks/crosswalks (§316.2065(10)), and
- A local **“unsafe operation”** clause (e.g., failing to slow when passing, operating without due care) you can enforce behaviorally.

If needed, you can add language that E-bikes must slow to pedestrian speeds within school zones (flashing signals and signage already exist) and/or at crosswalks. These actions are enforceable as these areas are already signalized/posted and striped.