



Public Safety Committee Meeting Agenda

Date: Tuesday, April 7, 2026

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Location: Bremerton Fire Station #1, 911 Parks Avenue

Members: Chair Michael Goodnow, Vice Chair Rick Tift, Christy Cammarata

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. GENERAL BUSINESS

2A. Meeting minutes for March 2026 presented for approval.

3. NEW BUSINESS / DEPARTMENT BRIEFINGS

3A. Legal:

1. Continued discussion on Ordinance – Amending BMC 10.13 “Motorized Wheeled Transportation Devices” & 10.14 “Bicycle Safety and Helmets” (Attachment #1- Draft Ordinance)

4. ADJOURNMENT

Attachment 1

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE of the City Council of the City of Bremerton, Washington, amending Chapter 10.13 of the Bremerton Municipal Code entitled “Motorized Wheeled Transportation Devices” and Code Section 10.14.020 entitled “Definitions” regarding bicycle safety and helmets.

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to amend provisions relating to motorized transportation devices in order to enforce safe and proper use of such devices in methods and areas appropriate to their function ; NOW THEREFORE,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BREMERTON, WASHINGTON, DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 10.13 of the Bremerton Municipal Code entitled “Motorized Wheeled Transportation Devices” is hereby amended to read as follows:

Chapter 10.13 ~~EPAMDs AND MOTORIZED FOOT SCOOTERS~~MOTORIZED WHEELED TRANSPORTATION DEVICES

10.13.010 DEFINITIONS.

The following words and phrases when used in this chapter shall, for the purpose of this chapter, have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section:

~~(a) "Motorized wheeled transportation device" shall mean any device which is not required to be licensed pursuant to RCW 46.16.010, and is propelled by an electric motor or liquid fuel engine, and is intended to transport a person on or across land. A motorized wheeled transportation device shall include, but shall not be limited to, a "motorized foot scooter" as that term is defined in RCW 46.04.336 and any electric or gas powered scooter, powered board, motor powered skateboard, or other similar motorized wheeled device, regardless of the manner in which the device is designed; provided, that a motorized wheeled transportation device shall not include any motorized wheeled device defined as follows:~~

Electric assisted bicycle	RCW 46.04.169
Electric personal assistive mobility device	RCW 46.04.1695
Motoreycle	RCW 46.04.330
Moped	RCW 46.04.304
Motor driven eyele	RCW 46.04.332

Commented [JH1]: RCW 46.16.010 has been recodified as RCW 46.16A.030 and updated a number of times since 2004 when this language was crafted.

Commented [JH2R1]: One-wheels and scooters are categorized together. Electric bicycles are regulated alongside non-motorized bicycles.

<u>Power wheelchair</u>	<u>RCW</u> <u>46.04.415</u>
<u>Wheelchair conveyance</u>	<u>RCW</u> <u>46.04.710</u>

Motorized wheeled transportation device does not include any vehicle that is prohibited by State law from being operated or used in or upon a street or sidewalk.

(a) "Electric personal assistive mobility device" (EPAMD) means (1) a self-balancing device with two wheels not in tandem, designed to transport only one person by an electric propulsion system with an average power of seven hundred fifty watts (one horsepower) having a maximum speed on a paved level surface, when powered solely by such a propulsion system while ridden by an operator weighing one hundred seventy pounds, of less than twenty miles per hour or (2) a self-balancing device with one wheel designed to transport only one person by an electric propulsion system with an average power of two thousand watts (two and two-thirds horsepower) having a maximum speed on a paved level surface, when powered solely by such a propulsion system, of less than twenty miles per hour.

Commented [JH3]: RCW [46.04.1695](#)
This covers one-wheels/uni-wheels, segways, etc. Most "gizmos" with 1 or 2 wheels.

(b) "Motorized foot scooter" means a device with two or three wheels that has handlebars, a floorboard that can be stood upon while riding, and is powered by an internal combustion engine or electric motor that has a maximum speed of no greater than twenty miles per hour on level ground. A motor-driven cycle, a moped, an electric-assisted bicycle, or a motorcycle is not a motorized foot scooter.

Commented [JH4]: Replaces "Motorized Wheeled Transportation Devices" with clearer term: "motorized foot scooter."

(c) "Park" means and includes all City parks, public squares, park drives, parkways, boulevards, golf courses, and play and recreation grounds under the jurisdiction of the City of Bremerton parks and recreation department.

Commented [JH5R4]: RCW [46.04.336](#)

(d) "Public place" means and includes publicly owned, leased or operated parking lots or publicly owned, leased or operated real property, and any public places appropriated to the public for public use, whether improved or unimproved.

(e) "Right-of-way" shall mean the entire width between the boundary lines of every way publicly maintained when any part thereof is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel and including the sidewalks and shoulder areas.

(f) "Sidewalk" means that portion of a right-of-way that excludes the street but includes the sidewalk and shoulder area, whether improved or unimproved.

(g) "Street" means that portion of any right-of-way including any highway, avenue, lane, road, street, drive, place, boulevard, alley, and every way or place in the City of Bremerton open as a matter of right to public vehicular travel.

10.13.020 DUTY TO OBEY TRAFFIC-CONTROL DEVICES AND RULES OF THE ROAD.

Except as provided in this chapter, every person operating an EPAMD or motorized foot scooter ~~motorized wheeled transportation device~~ upon a street shall have the same rights and duties as operators of bicycles.

10.13.030 NEGLIGENT OPERATION - PROHIBITED.

The negligent operation of an EPAMD or motorized foot scooter ~~motorized wheeled transportation device~~ on any street shall be prohibited. For the purposes of this section, the term "negligent" shall mean the failure to exercise ordinary care, and is the doing of some act that a reasonably careful person would not do under the same or similar circumstances or the failure to do something that a reasonably careful person would do under the same or similar circumstances. (Ord. 4915 §1, 2004)

10.13.040 PROHIBITED AREAS.

~~The operation or use of motorized wheeled transportation devices shall not be permitted, regardless of the age of the operator, in or upon the following areas:~~

~~(a) Except as otherwise provided in this Chapter, motorized foot scooters may be operated while under power on streets and bicycle lanes. Motorized foot scooters may be operated upon public sidewalks only while under manual power. "Manual power" means that the drive wheel is disengaged from and not propelled by the electric or liquid fuel power source (in neutral) and that the liquid fuel source (combustion engine) is turned off.~~

~~(a)(b) Except as otherwise provided in this Chapter, EPAMDs may be operated on streets and sidewalks, but not on bicycle lanes.~~

~~(b)(c) The operation or use of EPAMDs or motorized foot scooters shall not be permitted, regardless of the age of the operator, in or upon the following areas:~~

~~(a) Sidewalks while under power, however, motorized wheeled transportation devices are permitted in or upon public sidewalks under manual power. "Manual power" means that the drive wheel is disengaged from and not propelled by the electric or liquid fuel power source (in neutral) and that the liquid fuel source (combustion engine) is turned off.~~

~~(bi) Improved or natural surface recreational trails or pathways.~~

~~(eii) Parks.~~

~~(diiii) Public places.~~

~~(eiv) Streets with a maximum speed limit in excess of twenty-five (25) miles per hour.~~

~~The provisions of this section limiting the use of EPAMDs and/or motorized foot scooters do not apply when that device is operated by a person with a mobility impairment caused by a physical disability who uses that device to enhance that person's mobility.~~

10.13.050 PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY.

A parent or guardian who has custody of any child or ward under the age of eighteen (18) shall not authorize or knowingly permit any such child or ward to violate any of the provisions of this section.

10.13.60 MINIMUM AGE ~~AND HOURS~~ OF OPERATION.

(a) No EPAMD or motorized foot scooter ~~motorized wheeled transportation device~~ shall be operated on any street unless the operator is at least fourteen (14) years of age.

Commented [JH6]: Some cities include this for those with disabilities that may use EPAMDs for mobility ease.
A 2005 Federal DOT guidance recommended entities allow for this scenario:
https://railroads.dot.gov/sites/fra.dot.gov/files/fra_net/1398/Segways.pdf
It's focused on transit, but advises applying the principle to other scenarios as well.

~~(b) A motorized wheeled transportation device shall not be operated on any street between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.~~

Commented [JH7]: Problematic for commuters. Maybe it made sense in 2004 when these devices weren't commonly used for commuting/transportation.

10.13.070 HELMET, REFLECTORS, LIGHTS.

The following equipment shall be required whenever an ~~EPAMD or motorized foot scooter~~ motorized wheeled transportation device is operated on any street within the City:

Commented [JH8]: RCWs do not require, but allows for cities to regulate. Many cities do require.

(a) **Helmet Required.** Any person operating or riding upon any ~~EPAMD or motorized foot scooter~~ motorized wheeled transportation device shall, at all times, wear a "motorcycle helmet" as that term is defined in RCW 46.37.530 or an approved bicycle helmet certified by the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), or the Snell Foundation, and such helmet shall be worn on the head and shall have the chin strap fastened securely while the ~~EPAMD or motorized foot scooter~~ motorized wheeled transportation device is in motion.

(b) **Lights and Reflectors Required.** Every ~~motorized foot scooter~~ motorized wheeled transportation device when in use during the "hours of darkness" as defined in RCW 46.04.200 shall be equipped with a lamp on the front which shall emit a white light visible from a distance of at least five hundred (500) feet to the front and with a red reflector or light on the rear of the ~~motorized wheeled transportation device~~ motorized foot scooter visible from a distance of up to five hundred (500) feet from the rear of the device.

Commented [JH9]: EPAMDs/one-wheels often do not have the space for lights and no cities nor RCW require lights on EPAMDs.

10.13.080 BRAKES REQUIRED.

~~Motorized wheeled transportation device~~ EPAMDs and motorized foot scooters shall be equipped with brakes that will enable the operator to make the braked wheels skid on dry, level, clean pavement.

10.13.090 NOISE.

(a) The operation of an ~~EPAMD or motorized foot scooter~~ motorized wheeled transportation device shall be subject to the provisions of BMC 6.32.050, entitled "Public Disturbance Noises."

(b) No ~~EPAMD or motorized foot scooter~~ motorized wheeled transportation device powered by a liquid fuel motor shall be operated unless such device is equipped with a properly working muffler that is designed to reduce the noise produced by the device.

10.13.100 NO MORE THAN ONE (1) PERSON PERMITTED - TOWING OR PULLING PROHIBITED.

(a) No more than one (1) person shall operate or ride upon a ~~EPAMD or motorized foot scooter~~ motorized wheeled transportation device at the same time. In the event that more than one (1) person operates or rides upon a device at the same time, each person operating or riding the device shall be in violation of this section.

(b) No person operating a ~~EPAMD or motorized foot scooter~~ motorized wheeled transportation device shall tow or pull another person behind such device. In the event that a person is towed or pulled behind a ~~EPAMD or motorized foot scooter~~ motorized wheeled transportation device, the person operating the ~~EPAMD or motorized foot scooter~~ motorized wheeled transportation device and the person being towed or pulled shall each be in violation of this section.

10.13.110 VIOLATION - PENALTY.

(a) Any person violating any provision of this chapter, except for BMC 10.13.070(a), shall be guilty of a civil infraction and shall be liable for monetary penalties not to exceed forty dollars (\$40.00), exclusive of statutory assessments, provided, conduct that constitutes a criminal offense may be charged as such and is subject to the maximum penalties allowed for such offenses. Community service hours may be imposed in lieu of a monetary penalty.

(b) Any person violating BMC 10.13.070(a) shall be guilty of a civil infraction and shall be liable for monetary penalties as set forth in Chapter 7.80 RCW not to exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) exclusive of statutory assessments.

(c) Bremerton Municipal Court - Jurisdiction. The Bremerton Municipal Court shall have jurisdiction to adjudicate, in accordance with applicable laws, any violation of this chapter; provided, that in the event jurisdiction over a juvenile lies with another court, that other court shall have jurisdiction to adjudicate the offense.

SECTION 2. Section 10.14.020 of the Bremerton Municipal Code entitled "Definitions" is hereby amended to read as follows:

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meaning indicated, unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

(a) "Bicycle" means every device propelled solely by human power, or an electric-assisted bicycle as defined in RCW 46.04.169, upon which a person or persons may ride, having two tandem wheels either of which is 16 inches or more in diameter, or three wheels, any one of which is more than 20 inches in diameter, and within this chapter shall include any attached trailers, side cars, and/ or other device being towed by a bicycle.

(b) "Guardian" means a parent, legal guardian, adult with custody, or temporary guardian, who maintains responsibility, whether voluntary or otherwise, for the safety and welfare of a person under the age of 18 years.

(c) "Helmet" means a head covering designed for safety that meets or exceeds safety standards adopted by U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission standard (CPSC), or such subsequently nationally recognized standard for bicycle helmet performance as the City Council may adopt.

(d) "Public Area" means public roadways, bicycle paths, parks, or any right-of-way, publicly owned property within the City of Bremerton.

SECTION 1. Corrections. The City Clerk and codifiers of this ordinance are authorized to make necessary corrections to this ordinance including, but not limited to, the correction of scrivener, clerical, typographical, and spelling errors, references, ordinance numbering, section/subsection numbers and any references thereto.

SECTION 2. Severability. If any one or more sections, subsections, or sentences of this Ordinance are held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not

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affect the validity of the remaining portion of this Ordinance and the same shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force ten (10) days from and after its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

PASSED by the City Council the _____ day of _____, 20__.

Jane Rebelowski, Council President

Approved this _____ day of _____, 20__.

GREG WHEELER, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ANGELA HOOVER, City Clerk

KYLIE J. FINNELL, City Attorney

PUBLISHED the _____ day of _____, 20__.

EFFECTIVE the _____ day of _____, 20__.

ORDINANCE NO. _____.