

# City Code Revisions Electric Bikes and Electric Scooters

April 30, 2019



# Discussion

- Why are staff proposing revisions to the City Code?
- Existing Arizona Legislation and Flagstaff City Code
  - Electric bikes
  - Electric scooters
- Community input - where do electric bikes and electric scooters belong in Flagstaff?
- Proposed updates





# Why Propose Revisions?

- Bike share
  - Lessons learned from 2018 bike share pilot
  - Bike share system joint solicitation with NAU
- Electric bikes
  - ARS does not address electric bicycles on sidewalks, but Flagstaff does except where posted
- Electric scooters
  - ARS does not address scooters on sidewalks
- Ability to regulate companies that make dockless and electric bicycles and electric scooters available for short-term rental



# Arizona Legislation – Electric Bicycles



## Electric Bicycles

- ARS 28-819 gives local authorities the right to allow or prohibit electric bicycles from bike lanes or multiuse paths
- Electric bikes are defined as:
  - Class 1: pedal assist, not more than 20 mph
  - Class 2: throttle (twist-and-go), not more than 20 mph
  - Class 3: pedal assist, not more than 28 mph



# Arizona Legislation – Electric Bicycles



- Section 28-819 regulates the operation of electric bicycles
- Electric bicycles users
  - Have the same rights and duties as a person riding a bicycle
  - Do not require title, registration, vehicle license tax, driver licenses or vehicle insurance
  - Must have a label indicating the classification number, top assisted speed and motor wattage



# Arizona Legislation - Electric Bicycles



## Class 1 and 2

- May be used on bicycle and multi-use paths (FUTS)
- Local authority may prohibit on paths



## Class 3

- May NOT be used on bicycle and multi-use paths, unless it is within or adjacent to a roadway
- Local authority may allow on paths



# Arizona Legislation – Electric Scooters




## Electric Scooters

- SB 1398 signed by the Governor on 4/22/19 granted electric scooters all of the rights and subject to all of the duties as a person riding a bicycle, and subject to the same ARS provisions as a bicycle:
  - Max speed of 20 miles per hour
  - Max weight of 70 pounds
  - May be used on bike and multi-use paths
  - Local authority may prohibit on paths

# Existing City Code

- Chapter 9-05 regulates bicycle use on city streets, sidewalks, and urban trails
- Section 9-05-001-0007 allows bicycles on sidewalks
- Electric bicycles and electric scooters are not currently defined or regulated



A green-tinted photograph of a brick building with a yellow bicycle parked on the sidewalk. A parking meter and a sign are visible on the left. The text is overlaid in the center.

Where should  
electric bikes and  
electric scooters be  
allowed in Flagstaff?

# Community Input

- The community survey asked Flagstaff residents where they think electric bikes and electric scooters should be allowed or prohibited on:
  - Sidewalks
  - Downtown sidewalks
  - Bike lanes
  - Paved FUTS
  - Gravel FUTS
  - Single-track trails
- The survey was open for 30 days
- 376 surveys were completed





# Community Input



## General themes:

- Little support for an electric devices on sidewalks
- Almost no support on downtown sidewalks
- Some support for devices on paved FUTS
- Less support on gravel FUTS
- Strong support for devices in bike lanes



# Community Input

- Commissions and Committees
  - Traffic Commission
  - Sustainability Commission
  - Commission on Inclusion and Adaptive Living
  - Bicycle Advisory Committee
  - Pedestrian Advisory Committee
- Comments
  - Support: enhance mobility, reduce vehicle use, meet climate goals
  - Concerns: potential conflicts with pedestrians on sidewalks/FUTS

# Highlights of Proposed Code Revisions

- 9-05 Bicycles: adds definitions
- 9-05-001-0003 Traffic Laws Apply
- 9-05-001-0004 Riding on Bicycles
- 9-05-001-0006 Riding on Roadways/Bike Lanes
- 9-05-001-XXXX Parking
- 9-05-001-0007 Riding on sidewalks
- 9-05-001-0008 Riding on multiuse paths
- 9-05-001-0010 Bicycle Helmets
- 9-05-001-XXXX Service Agreement
- 9-05-001-XXXX Impoundment
- 9-05-001-XXXX Penalties





# Next Steps



- Bike share system solicitation closes on May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019
- Staff will be back in June with proposed revisions for approval
- Legal may recommend additional revisions to regulate the operation of electric bikes and electric scooters at a later date

Questions?

Thank you.

