



SPECIAL BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Martin County Administrative Center
Board of County Commission Chambers
2401 SE Monterey Road, Stuart, FL 34996

www.martinmpo.com
(772) 221-1498

Monday, February 2, 2026 @ 1:00 PM

AGENDA

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>ACTION</u>
1. CALL TO ORDER	
2. ROLL CALL	
3. APPROVE AGENDA	
4. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (PLEASE LIMIT YOUR COMMENTS TO THREE MINUTES; COMPLETE CARD TO COMMENT)	
5. AGENDA ITEMS	
A. E-BIKE AND MICROMOBILITY PRESENTATION Pg. 3	DISCUSSION
B. TOWN OF JUPITER ISLAND – E-BIKE ORDINANCE UPDATE Pg. 26	DISCUSSION
6. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (PLEASE LIMIT YOUR COMMENTS TO THREE MINUTES; COMPLETE CARD TO COMMENT)	
7. COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS	
8. COMMENTS FROM FDOT	
9. NOTES	

10. NEXT MEETING

- Joint BPAC/CAC/TAC Meeting – February 9, 2026, at 1:30pm
Meeting Location: Martin County Administrative Center Commission Chambers

11. ADJOURN

The Martin MPO solicits public participation without regard to race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability or family status. Persons who require special accommodations under the American with Disabilities Act or persons who require language translation services (free of charge) should contact Ricardo Vazquez, Principal Planner (Title VI/Non-discrimination Contact) at (772) 223-7983 or rvazquez@martin.fl.us in advance of the meeting. Hearing impaired individuals are requested to telephone the Florida Relay System at #711.



**BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC) MEETING
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

MEETING DATE: February 2, 2026	DUE DATE: January 26, 2026	UPWP#: 6
WORDING: E-BIKE AND MICROMOBILITY DISCUSSION		
REQUESTED BY: MPO	PREPARED BY: Ricardo Vazquez / Beth Beltran	DOCUMENT(S) REQUIRING ACTION: N/A

BACKGROUND

During recent meetings, BPAC members have raised concerns about the increasing presence of e-bikes and micromobility devices and their implications for pedestrian and motorist safety. In response, members recommended convening a special BPAC meeting to explore regulatory and enforcement strategies, with an emphasis on how local ordinances can be used by municipalities and law enforcement to address safety and operational challenges.

ISSUES

At the February 2, 2026, Special BPAC meeting, MPO staff will provide an overview of e-bikes and micromobility devices and share examples of how communities at the State and national level are responding to related safety and regulatory challenges.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

- Discuss recommendations for e-bikes and micromobility that local governments can adopt

ATTACHMENTS

- E-bike and micromobility discussion PowerPoint

Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee Special Meeting

E-Bike and Micromobility Discussion



What are E-Bikes?

- Traditional bicycle equipped with an integrated electric motor and a rechargeable battery.
- Offers assistance with pedaling and primarily designed to augment human power rather than replace it entirely.



Classes of E-Bikes



CLASS 1



CLASS 2



CLASS 3

Max Speed

20 mph

20 mph

28 mph

Pedal Assist



E-Motorcycle (E-Moto)

- Fully motorized, pedal-less, higher-powered, and faster than E-Bikes.
- Requires license/registration/insurance and uses roads like gas motorcycles.
- The core difference is legal classification: e-bikes are consumer products akin to bicycles, while e-motos are true motor vehicles.



What is Micromobility?

- Micromobility refers to small, low-speed vehicles intended for personal use and includes station-based bikeshare systems, dockless bikeshare systems, electric-assist bikeshare, and electric scooters.

Micromobility devices



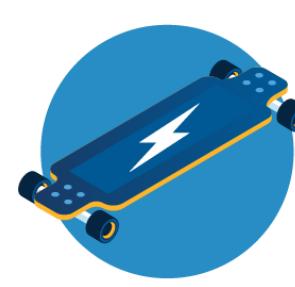
Bikes



E-bikes



E-scooters



E-skateboards & other emerging new devices



E-Bikes and Micromobility

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Environmentally friendly• Affordable transportation option• Reduces traffic congestion• Easy parking and storage• Accessible for a wide range of users• Promotes physical activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safety risks if improperly used• Conflicts with pedestrians and cars• Infrastructure not always available• Battery limitations and charging time• Weather dependency• Cost of repairs and battery replacement

Crash Data - 2025

Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles Crash Dashboard

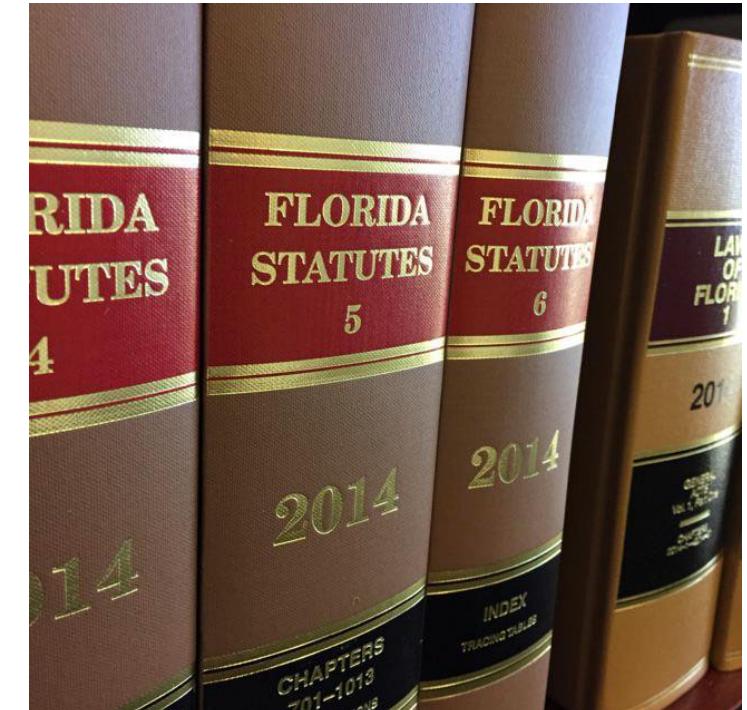
- 97 bike crashes in Martin County
 - 3 resulting in a fatality
- 9,836 bike crashes in Florida
 - 196 resulting in a fatality
- 61 pedestrian crashes in Martin County
 - 2 resulting in a fatality
- 10,627 pedestrian crashes in Florida
 - 601 resulting in a fatality



Current Florida E-Bike Laws

§ 316.20655, F.S.

(1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, an electric bicycle or an operator of an electric bicycle shall be afforded all the rights and privileges, and be subject to all of the duties, of a bicycle or the operator of a bicycle, including s. 316.2065. An electric bicycle is a vehicle to the same extent as a bicycle. However, this section may not be construed to prevent a local government, through the exercise of its powers under s. 316.008, from adopting an ordinance governing the operation of electric bicycles on streets, highways, sidewalks, and sidewalk areas under or within the local government's jurisdiction.



Current Florida E-Bike Laws

§ 316.20655, F.S.

(2) An electric bicycle or an operator of an electric bicycle is not subject to the provisions of law relating to financial responsibility, driver or motor vehicle licenses, vehicle registration, title certificates...

(6) An electric bicycle must operate in a manner so that the electric motor is disengaged or ceases to function when the rider stops pedaling or when the brakes are applied.



Current Florida E-Bike Laws

§ 316.20655, F.S.

(7) An operator may ride an electric bicycle where bicycles are allowed, including, but not limited to, streets, highways, roadways, shoulders, bicycle lanes, and bicycle or multiuse paths.

(8) A local government may adopt an ordinance providing one or more minimum age requirements to operate an electric bicycle and may adopt an ordinance requiring an operator of an electric bicycle to possess a government-issued photographic identification while operating the electric bicycle.



Current Florida Legislative Session

Proposed House Bill 243

- Class 3 E-Bikes: Prohibits anyone from operating a Class 3 electric bicycle (which provides pedal assistance up to 28 mph) without a valid driver's license.
- Electric Motorcycles: Formally defines "electric motorcycle" as any motorcycle powered by an electric motor of 750 watts or more capable of speeds exceeding 28 mph.
- Age Restrictions: Prohibits individuals under the age of 16 from operating these high-powered electric motorcycles



Current Florida Legislative Session

Proposed House Bill 243

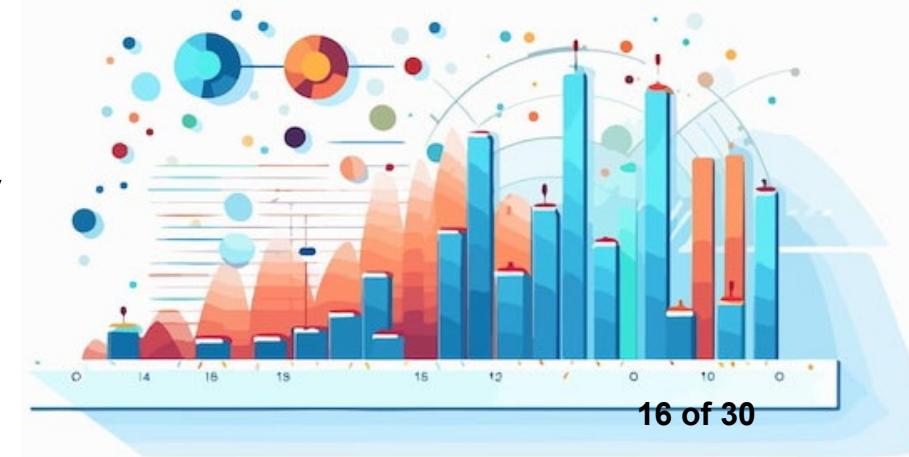
- Pathways and Trails: Riders on shared pathways must yield to pedestrians and provide an audible signal (such as a bell or verbal warning) before passing. No passing at over 10 mph.
- Illegal Modifications: Establishes penalties for knowingly modifying an e-bike to exceed manufacturer speed limits.
- Driver Education: Requires the State to add at least five questions specifically about safe e-bike and motorized scooter operation to the Class E driver's license test.



Current Florida Legislative Session

Proposed House Bill 243

- Mandatory Reporting: Requires law enforcement to specify in crash reports whether a motorized scooter, e-bike, or electric motorcycle was involved.
- Statewide Statistics: Mandates that the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles maintain separate, searchable statistics for crashes involving these specific vehicle types to better guide future safety policies



What are other areas are doing?

West Palm Beach Ordinance

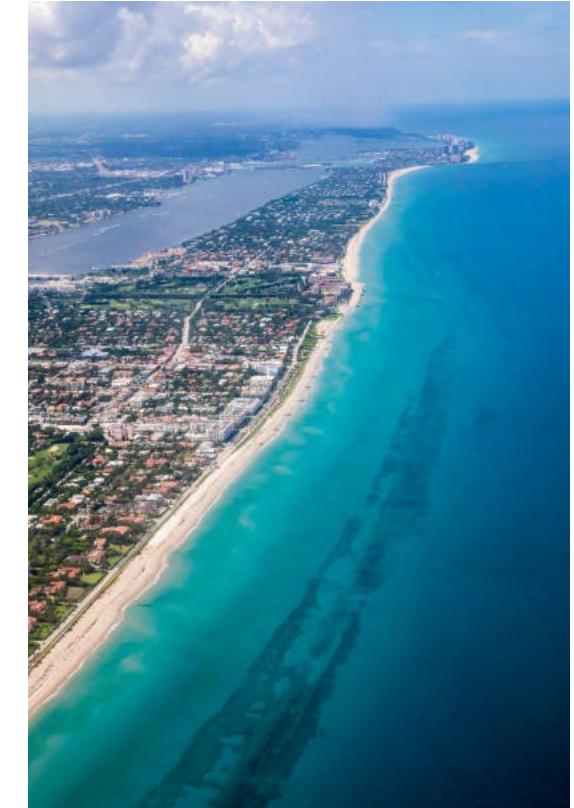
- (1) Micromobility system devices, bicycles and scooters shall not operate on city streets between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.
- (2) Motorized bicycles, motorized scooters and bicycles shall not be operated on public sidewalks.
- (3) Scooters shall not be operated on public streets and may be operated on public sidewalks.
- (4) Micromobility devices, bicycles and scooters operated by a micromobility system operator shall only be operated within the permitted deployment areas.
- (5) Micromobility devices, bicycles and scooters shall not be operated within any public or private parking garage.
- (6) Micromobility devices, bicycles and scooters shall not be operated within any area designated for pedestrians only.



What are other areas are doing?

West Palm Beach Cont.

- (7) Micromobility devices, except scooters, are permitted for use on all bike lanes, buffered bike lanes and protected bicycle lanes, unless otherwise posted.
- (8) Micromobility devices shall not be operated by users under the age of 16.
- (9) Helmets shall be worn for users in compliance with Florida law.
- (10) Micromobility devices, bicycles and scooters shall have only one rider.
- (11) All users of micromobility devices, bicycles and scooters, shall always yield the right-of-way to pedestrians and mobility impaired individuals using a mobility assisted device.



What are other areas are doing?

Mount Pleasant, South Carolina Ordinance

- Under Mount Pleasant's current ordinances, e-bikes are generally treated like traditional bicycles, but there are limits.
- E-bikes can have a maximum motor output of 750 watts and a top speed of 20 miles per hour.
- When ridden on sidewalks, e-bike riders must yield to pedestrians and cannot exceed 12 miles per hour.



What are other areas are doing?

City of Palm Coast, Flagler County

- It is unlawful to operate an E-Bike in a bicycle lane, bicycles path, right-of-way, roadways, and sidewalks in an unsafe and reckless manner 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. The operation of an E-Bike that produces more than 750 watts of power is prohibited on the roadways, sidewalks, right-of-ways, bicycles paths, and bicycles lanes within the jurisdiction of the City of Palm Coast.



What are other areas are doing?

City of Palm Coast, Flagler County Cont.

- No person under 11 years of age may operate an E-Bike on any road, right-of-way, bicycle lane, bicycle path, sidewalk, or other City-owned property. Nothing herein prohibits a minor under the minimum age from riding as a passenger on an Electric Bicycle designed and equipped for a passenger in compliance with §316.2065, Fla. Stat.
- Any person operating an E-Bike shall carry a government-issued photographic identification and shall present such identification upon lawful request of a law enforcement officer.

What are other areas are doing?

City of Palm Coast, Flagler County Cont.

- It shall be unlawful for any person to operate an **Off-Road Electric Motor-Driven Cycle** on:
 - On any Bike Lane within the City;
 - On any Bike Path within the City;
 - On any City owned or controlled property including parks;
 - On any City owned or maintained right of way;
 - In any public space or pathway within the City;
 - On any roads or crosswalk within the City;
 - On any sidewalk or public pathway within the City.

Such devices may operate only on private property with owner consent.

Deputy Dorsey, Flagler County Sheriff's Office

Helmet Requirement for 15 and younger has been helpful.

- Allows law enforcement to issue warnings and citations.
- Allows for E-Bikes to be towed if child is not wearing helmet.



Big issue of juveniles riding on E-Motorcycles

- E-motorcycles are only allowed to operate on private property. E-Motos are towed.

“E-Bikes are all over the County, and ordinances provide officers with the ability to enforce the rules and ultimately improve safety.”



Common Ordinance Topics

- Classification (3-Class system)
- Age Restrictions
- Helmets
- Where to Ride
- Speed Limits
- Licensing/Registration



BPAC Recommendations

- The following recommendations are being proposed by the Martin MPO BPAC:



**BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BPAC) MEETING
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

MEETING DATE: February 2, 2026	DUE DATE: January 26, 2026	UPWP#: 6
WORDING: TOWN OF JUPITER ISLAND – E-BIKE ORDINANCE UPDATE		
REQUESTED BY: MPO	PREPARED BY: Ricardo Vazquez / Beth Beltran	DOCUMENT(S) REQUIRING ACTION: N/A

BACKGROUND

The Town of Jupiter Island is in the process of adopting an ordinance addressing e-bikes and other mobility devices. The Director of Public Safety for the Jupiter Island Public Safety Department has offered to attend the Special BPAC meeting to discuss e-bikes and the proposed ordinance.

ISSUES

At the February 2, 2026, Special BPAC meeting, Chief Michael S. Ewing, Director of Public Safety for the Town of Jupiter Island's Public Safety Department, will provide the committee members an update regarding its ordinance.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

- Discuss the Town of Jupiter Island's proposed local ordinance.

ATTACHMENTS

- Ordinance No. 414 – Electric Bicycles – 2nd Reading

ORDINANCE NO. 414

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF JUPITER ISLAND, MARTIN COUNTY, FLORIDA AMENDING CHAPTER 14, SECTION 14.3 "BICYCLES"; CREATING SECTION 14-7 "REGULATION OF MICROMOBILITY DEVICES" OF THE TOWN CODE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Town of Jupiter Island, Martin County Florida ("Town") is a duly constituted municipality having such power and authority conferred upon it by the Florida Constitution and Chapter 166, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Town has the authority, pursuant to Article VIII, Section 2(b) of the Florida Constitution, and Chapter 166, Florida Statutes, to adopt such regulations as it deems appropriate to further the health, safety, and welfare of its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Town, pursuant to Florida Senate Bill 462 (2025), has the authority to adopt ordinances governing the operation of micromobility devices, regulate rider age and ID requirements, and implement other regulations for the safe and lawful operation of micromobility devices within the Town; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to §316.2128, Florida Statutes, municipalities are authorized to regulate the safe operation of micromobility devices and motorized scooters within their jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public, the Town deems it necessary to regulate the use of micromobility devices.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF JUPITER ISLAND, MATIN COUNTY, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The Whereas clauses are incorporated herein as the finding of fact and conclusion of law of the Town Commission.

Section 2. The Code of Ordinances of the Town is hereby amended at Chapter 14, "Traffic and Motor Vehicles" as follows:

Sec. 14-3. - Bicycles.

(a) Every bicycle while in use on any street in the town shall be provided with a suitable bell or horn.

(b) No person shall ride a bicycle upon any sidewalk or parkway or park lawn in the town.

(c) Bicycle riders shall observe all directional vehicular traffic regulations.

~~(d) No person shall operate or use a bicycle upon any street, road or bicycle path in the town unless such bicycle is equipped with one rear reflector and one fluorescent flag and mast.~~

(d) Every bicycle in use between sunset and sunrise shall be equipped with a functioning lamp on the front of the bicycle where it can exhibit a white light visible from a distance of no less than 500 feet from the front and a lamp and reflector on the rear of each exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 600 feet to the rear. The person operating the bicycle shall deploy the lamp with the white light at all times between sunset and sunrise.

Sec. 14-7. – Regulation of Micromobility Devices.

The Town finds that the operation of micromobility devices, to include but not limited to, motorized scooters and e-bikes, on public streets and sidewalks presents potential safety risks to operators, pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists. It is the intent of this section to regulate the operation of such devices within the Town in a manner consistent with state law, while ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of the public. This section is not intended to conflict with state law but to supplement it with reasonable local regulations permitted by §316.2128, Florida Statutes

(a) **Definitions.** *Electronic bicycle* or *E-Bike* shall have the same definition as provided under §316.003(23), Fla. Stat.

Electronic personal assistive mobility devices or *micromobility device* means any small, motorized transportation device designed for personal use, including but not limited to scooters, hoverboards, or similar devices, excluding E-Bikes and ADA-compliant mobility devices or as otherwise provided under §316.003, Fla. Stat.

(b) **Minimum Age Requirement.** It shall be unlawful for any person under the age of sixteen (16) years to operate an electronic bicycle on any public street, sidewalk, park, path, or other right-of way within the Town.

(c) **Identification Requirement.** All operators of electronic bicycles must carry a valid government-issued identification card while operating such

devices and must present the same upon request by any law enforcement officer.

(d) **Equipment Modification.** Every electronic bicycle in use between sunset and sunrise shall be equipped with a functioning lamp on the front of the bicycle which can exhibit a white light visible from a distance of no less than 500 feet from the front and a lamp and reflector on the rear of each exhibiting a red light visible from a distance of 600 feet to the rear. The person operating the electric bicycle shall deploy the lamp with the white light at all times between sunset and sunrise.

(e) **Prohibited Devices.** The operation of all other electronic personal assistive mobility devices or micro-mobility devices is prohibited within the Town's limits, with the sole exception of ADA-compliant mobility devices used by individuals with disabilities. No person shall modify or cause to be modified the factory settings or specifications of an electronic bike for the purposes of increasing its maximum speed or power output beyond manufacturer or statutory limits.

Section 3. Severability. If any provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the other provisions or applications of this Ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or applications, and to this end, the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared severable.

Section 4. Repeal of Ordinances in Conflict. All other ordinances of the Town of Jupiter Island, Florida, or parts thereof which conflict with this or any part of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 5. Codification. This Ordinance shall be codified and made part of the official Code of Ordinances of the Town of Jupiter Island.

Section 6. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its passage and approval, as provided by law.

(Continued on next page)

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a public meeting of the Town Commission of the Town of Jupiter Island on this day of , 2025.

TOWN OF JUPITER ISLAND

MAYOR

VICE MAYOR

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

TOWN CLERK

#7450280 v1 18270-00002