

Councillor Martin - MoN - New E-scooter and Personal Mobility Device Regulations

Tuesday, 8 July 2025
Council

Council Member
Councillor Phillip Martin

Public

Contact Officer:
Mike Philippou, A/Director City Infrastructure

MOTION ON NOTICE

Councillor Phillip Martin will move a motion and seek a seconder for the matter shown below to facilitate consideration by the Council:

'That Council;

Noting that the State Government has announced new regulations governing the use of e-scooters and other personal mobility devices (PMDs), asks the Administration to request a briefing from the Department for Infrastructure and Transport and prepare a report on the permit conditions to be imposed by the City of Adelaide considering the changes to new regulations including to issue any new permits to e-scooter operators and complementary rules as are possible for users of both shared and privately owned e-scooters or PMDs. The report shall be presented to Council by the end of August, 2025 and include, but not be limited to, the following;

1. Proposals for transitioning e-scooters and personal mobility devices from footpaths to roads or bikeways
2. The circumstances under which e-scooters and personal mobility devices (such as privately owned and operated e-scooters) would be allowed to transition from footpaths to roads
3. A list of personal mobility devices, including disability scooters, that would be permitted to continue to use footpaths
4. Any potential exemptions to excluding e-scooters from riding on footpaths
5. The means by which geo-fencing could be introduced for all e-scooters permit holders to designated pick up and drop off zones and any recommendations to improve pedestrian access around locations such as traffic lights and other designated crossings, minimum footpath widths for geo-fencing sites etc
6. Details of a proposed licence term/s and a new fee structure to replicate the standard permit conditions fees in other cities, with clear identification of the circumstances that would constitute a breach of permit and descriptions of any penalties
7. Safety standards that could be enforced for e-scooter permit holders and details of the extent to which safety measures could be requested of users of privately owned devices
8. A condition of use for all e-scooter permit holders to immediately report to Council any accident resulting in injury to enable Council to independently record such statistics
9. Time frames for implementation
10. Any other relevant issues.'

ADMINISTRATION COMMENT

1. The State Government has announced new regulations governing the use of e-scooters and other personal mobility devices (PMDs).
2. From Sunday 13 July 2025, South Australians aged 16 years or over will be able to legally ride e-scooters and other Personal Mobility Devices (PMDs) on public roads and paths as follows:
 - 2.1. On footpaths, shared paths and road crossings - maximum 10km/h
 - 2.2. On separated footpaths, bicycle paths or bicycle lanes (physically separated from other traffic) - maximum speed of 25km/h
 - 2.3. On bike lanes (where the maximum road speed limit is no greater than 50km/h) - maximum speed of 25km/h
 - 2.4. To the left on any road where there is no bike lane (where the maximum speed limit is no greater than 50km/h) - maximum speed of 25km/h
 - 2.5. PMDs must be ridden in the bicycle lane if the road has a bicycle lane (for roads where the maximum speed limit is not greater than 50km/h)
 - 2.6. E-scooters will be permitted on roads where the maximum speed limit is 60km/h but must ride in the bicycle lane. Riders must stick to the maximum speed limit of 25km/h.
3. The new regulations also cover fleet-operated e-scooter operations such that special permission from the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport is not required, however companies will need permission from local Councils to park or store e-scooters on footpaths.
4. The Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) has also advised that where local Councils can demonstrate that the use of PMDs is not suitable on footpaths or other areas managed by the local Council, primarily due to concerns for pedestrian safety, the use of these devices may be prohibited, subject to an application to and assessment by DIT.
5. Councils will also be able to use geofencing, make rules about where e-scooters can be stored and decide if companies need insurance.
6. The new road rules related to e-scooters and other PMDs will be enforced by SA Police. Further information on the Legal PMD devices, rules and applying when riding a PMD and where PMDs can be used and speed limits can be found [here](#).
7. Administration is reviewing the new regulations framework to assess the potential impacts on the City of Adelaide and to shared e-scooter operations, including permit conditions and amendments to align with the new regulations from 13 July 2025.
8. Administration is in the process of organising a meeting with DIT and SA Police to discuss the new regulations and impacts to the City of Adelaide including:
 - 8.1. Exclusion zones for use of PMDs.
 - 8.2. The design of infrastructure to support use of PMDs.
 - 8.3. Enforcement by SA Police.
 - 8.4. Request for DIT to attend a briefing of Council on the new regulations.
9. Should Council resolve to support the proposed motion, a report will be presented to the Infrastructure and Public Works Committee meeting on 15 August 2025 in relation to the ongoing use and permits for shared micromobility prior to the expiry of the current permits.

Should the motion be carried, the following implications of this motion should be considered. Note any costs provided are estimates only – no quotes or prices have been obtained:	
Public consultation	Not applicable
External consultant advice	Not applicable
Legal advice / litigation (eg contract breach)	Not applicable
Impacts on existing projects	Not applicable

Budget reallocation	Not applicable
Capital investment	Not applicable
Staff time in preparing the workshop / report requested in the motion	8 hours
Other	Not applicable
Staff time in receiving and preparing this administration comment	To prepare this administration comment in response to the motion on notice took approximately 4.5 hours.

- END OF REPORT -