

## Township of Haverford

## Ordinance No. 3020 - 2025

An Ordinance of the Township of Haverford, County of Delaware, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, further amending and supplementing Ordinance No. 1091, adopted May 11, 1959, and known as "General Laws of the Township of Haverford" Chapter 55, Bicycles, Skateboards, and Roller Skates.

Whereas, the Township of Haverford desires to ensure the safety of its residents and visitors by updating its code to reflect modern forms of personal transportation; and

Whereas, the Board of Commissioners finds that electric motor-assisted bicycles (commonly known as e-bikes) and electric stand-up scooters (commonly known as e-scooters) present similar safety concerns as bicycles and should be regulated accordingly; and

Whereas, numerous studies have shown that helmet use significantly reduces the risk of head injuries in accidents involving e-bicycles and e-scooters; and

Whereas, it is in the best interest of the Township to establish age-appropriate safety requirements for e-bicycle and e-scooter use, including the use of helmets;

Now, Therefore, Be It Enacted and Ordained by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Haverford, County of Delaware, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as follows:

Section 1. That § 55-1 is hereby amended to add the following definitions:

## **E-BICYCLE**

A bicycle with an integrated electric motor that assists the rider's pedaling.

## **E-SCOOTER**

A device with two wheels, handlebars, and a standing platform that is powered by an electric motor, designed to transport one person standing. This definition excludes mobility scooters and seated scooters.

Section 2. That the following section shall be added:

§ 55-12. Age restrictions for e-bicycles and e-scooters.

- A. Anyone under the age of 16 must wear a helmet when riding an e-bicycle or e-scooter. This applies to anyone operating the e-bicycle, riding as a passenger, or riding in an attached restraining seat or trailer.
- B. There shall be an initial introductory period commencing upon the effective date of this Ordinance through December 31, 2025, during which written notices shall be issued for violations of this Section.
- C. Beginning January 1, 2026, a \$25 fine will be imposed for violations.

Section 3. The following section shall be edited to read as follows.

§ 55-24. Violations and penalties.

1st Reading: 08/2025 | 2nd Reading: 09/2025

Other than as set forth in § 55-12, any person, firm or corporation violating this chapter shall, upon summary conviction before any District Justice, pay a fine not exceeding \$1,000 and costs of prosecution; and in default of one payment of the fine and costs, the violator may be sentenced to the county jail for a term of not more than 90 days. Each and every day in which any person, firm or corporation shall be found to be in violation of this chapter shall constitute a separate offense.

Section 4. Repealer.

Any ordinance or part of ordinance to the extent that it is inconsistent herewith is hereby repealed.

Section 5. Severability.

Should any section, sentence, word or provision of this ordinance be declared by a Court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance as a whole.

Section 6. Effective Date

This ordinance shall become effective ten (10) days following final adoption by the Board of Commissioners and publication as required by law.

Enacted and Adopted this 8th day of September, 2025.

Township of Haverford

Ву:

Judy Trombetta, President, Board of Commissioners

Judy Trombetta

Attest:

David R. Burman, Township Manager/Secretary

Jan R. Brun