

**MUNICIPALITY OF BETHEL PARK
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

ORDINANCE NO. 6-8-26B

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF BETHEL PARK,
ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING CHAPTER
67, TITLED VEHICLES, UNLICENSED MOTOR-DRIVEN, TO ADD
SECTION 6.1.2 TO THE MUNICIPALITY OF BETHEL PARK CODE
OF ORDINANCES REGULATING THE OPERATION OF E-BIKES
IN THE MUNICIPALITY**

WHEREAS, the use of electronically powered bicycles, better known as E-Bikes has increased in the Municipality of Bethel Park; and

WHEREAS, the use of said E-bikes has led to increased safety risks for pedestrians and drivers operating licensed vehicles in the Municipality; and

WHEREAS, the Council and Municipality is committed to insuring the safety and enjoyment of all residents and visitors to the municipality of Bethel Park; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to establish regulations to govern the use of such devices in public parks, recreational areas, open spaces and on municipal streets and sidewalks.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby ordained and enacted by the Council of the Municipality of Bethel Park, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as follows:

SECTION 1:

The title of Chapter 67, Article 1 of the Bethel Park Code of Ordinances, currently entitled "Vehicles, Unlicensed Motor-Driven" shall be amended to state as follows:

Unlicensed Motor-Driven Vehicles and E-Bikes

SECTION 2:

Section 67.1 entitled "Certain Vehicles Prohibited" shall be amended as follows:

Certain Vehicles Prohibited and Regulated.

SECTION 3:

Chapter 67 shall be amended to add the following new section, Section 67.1.2, which shall state as follows:

67.1.2. E-Bike, which shall be defined as (a) a pedal cycle with electronic assistance, (b) weighing no more than 100 pounds, (c) having a motor that does not exceed 750 watts in power output, (d) having functional operational pedals, (e) having two or three wheels more than 11 inches in diameter, and (f) which cannot exceed 20 miles per hour solely through motor power on a level surface shall be subject to the following regulations:

1. All persons operating an E-Bike shall be subject all duties applicable to drivers of other vehicles under the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code (Title 75), including compliance with all traffic and speed signals and other driving regulations.
2. Operators of E-Bikes must be at least 16 years of age.
3. Operators of E-Bikes under the age of 21 must wear a helmet at all times.
4. Any person operating an E-Bike shall ride upon a permanent regular seat attached to the E-Bike.
5. Operation of an E-Bike in any Municipal park shall be restricted to paved areas and shall not exceed 15 miles per hour.
6. Operators of E-Bikes shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians at all times, maintaining a safe distance from pedestrians at a reduced speed, with the ability to stop.
7. Operators of E-Bikes must give an audible signal before overtaking and passing pedestrians and should do so only on the left.
8. The parent or guardian of any child shall not authorize or knowingly permit the child to violate any of the provisions of this ordinance.

SECTION 4:

Section 67.4 Violations and Penalties, which currently states as follows:

Any person or individual violating any provision of this Ordinance shall, upon conviction thereof before a Justice of the Peace of the Municipality of Bethel Park, be subject to a fine not to exceed \$300 or Imprisonment for a period not to exceed more than 30 days, or both. Should the owner of any unlicensed vehicle be subject to a second violation of the terms of this Ordinance within a period of six months

from the date of the first violation, the Police Department shall impound the vehicle and shall sell the same Pursuant to the provisions of the Pennsylvania Motor Code pertaining to Forfeited Vehicles.

Shall be amended to state as follows:

Any person or individual violating any provision of this Ordinance shall, upon conviction thereof before any judicial Officer of the Commonwealth shall be subject to a fine not to exceed \$300 or imprisonment for a period not to exceed more than 30 days, or both. Any person or individual committing a subsequent violation of this Ordinance shall be subject to a fine not exceeding \$600. Parents or guardians of minors who violate this Ordinance shall be responsible for payment of the minor’s fine and liability for any property damage caused by actions violating this Ordinance. Should the owner of any unlicensed vehicle be subject to a second violation of the terms of this Ordinance within a period of six months from the date of the first violation, the Police Department shall impound the vehicle and shall sell the same pursuant to the provisions of the Pennsylvania Motor Code pertaining to Forfeited Vehicles.

SECTION FIVE:

This Ordinance shall take effect within thirty (30) days and shall repeal any other Ordinance inconsistent with this Ordinance to the extent of such inconsistency.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED into law this ____ day of _____, 2026.

ATTEST:

MUNICIPALITY OF BETHEL PARK

Kristen Denne, Municipal Manager

Joseph Janosik, Council President

EXAMINED AND APPROVED by me this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Jack T. Allen, Mayor