

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-27

ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PISCATAWAY, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AMENDING CHAPTER 7, TRAFFIC, CHAPTER 10, HEALTH REGULATIONS, AND CHAPTER 19, FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Township Council of the Township of Piscataway, Middlesex County, finds it in the best interest of the public to amend Chapter 7, Traffic, Chapter 10, Health Regulations, and Chapter 19 of the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Piscataway; and

BE IT THEREFORE ORDAINED by the Township Council of the Township of Piscataway, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, that the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Piscataway are hereby amended with additions shown in italics and deletions shown in brackets as follows:

CHAPTER VII TRAFFIC

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7-42 Electric Bicycles

7-42.1 Purpose and Intent.

The purpose of this chapter is to establish regulations governing the safe and responsible operation of electric bicycles within the Township. These provisions are intended to promote public safety, educate both children and adults regarding proper riding practices, and ensure the well-being of riders, motorists, and pedestrians.

7-42.2 Definitions.

ELECTRIC BICYCLE

A two- or three-wheeled vehicle with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of less than 750 watts that meets the requirements of one of the following classifications: "class 1 low-speed electric bicycle," which means a low-speed electric bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour; or "class 2 low-speed electric bicycle," which means a low-speed electric bicycle equipped with a motor that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle, and that is not capable of providing assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.

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7-42.3 Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Operation; Required Equipment.

The following rules and regulations shall apply to all bicycles operated within the boundaries of the Township:

- a. *Every electric bicycle used at nighttime shall be equipped with a front lamp emitting a white light and a rear lamp emitting a red light, each visible from at least 500 feet.*
- b. *No person shall operate a bicycle unless it is equipped with a bell or other device capable of giving a signal audible at no less than 100 feet. Sirens and whistles are prohibited.*
- c. *Riders must be seated upon a permanent, regular seat and may not remove their feet from the pedals or hands from the handlebars. Trick or stunt riding is prohibited. Electric bicycles shall not carry more riders than designed. Riders must also ride in the same direction as vehicular traffic unless otherwise indicated by official signage.*
- d. *No person operating an electric bicycle shall attach themselves or the bicycle to any motor vehicle, and no motor vehicle operator shall knowingly permit such action.*
- e. *Every electric bicycle must be equipped with an operable brake.*
- f. *Every rider or operator shall obey all traffic signals, signs, and control devices as would be required of a motor-vehicle operator.*
- g. *Helmet Requirement. Every operator and passenger shall wear a properly fitted and fastened helmet that meets all applicable requirements under Title 39.*
- h. *Entering a Roadway. Riders shall come to a complete stop before entering a roadway and shall proceed only when the way is clear of vehicular and pedestrian traffic.*
- i. *Riders shall travel in the same direction as vehicular traffic. Riders may move left only to avoid debris or hazards, to pass slower vehicles, to make a left turn, or when using a bicycle lane located on the left side of the roadway.*
- j. *Riders shall travel in single file except where a path or portion of the roadway is expressly designated for bicycle use.*
- k. *These regulations apply whenever an electric bicycle is operated upon a public highway, street, or any path designated for exclusive bicycle use, except where otherwise stated.*

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- l. Electric bicycles shall comply with all applicable bicycle laws under Title 39. Riding on sidewalks is prohibited except where permitted by State law. Electric bicycles may be operated on Township-designated multi-use paths.*
- m. Carrying articles. No person operating an electric bicycle shall carry any package, bundle or article which prevents the operator from keeping both hands on the handlebars.*
- n. Parking. Electric bicycles shall not be parked so as to obstruct pedestrian traffic, vehicle travel lanes, or in any manner that interferes with building entrances.*
- o. Speed. Riders shall not operate an electric bicycle at speeds exceeding those that are reasonable and proper under the circumstances, or in any case exceeding applicable legal speed limits.*
- p. Riders shall not operate an electric bicycle in a reckless or careless manner that endangers persons or property.*
- q. The Director of the Department of Public Safety is herewith authorized to issue additional rules and regulations to further the public purpose of this chapter.*

7-42.4 Enforcement; Violations and Penalties.

- a. Any person who violates any provision of this chapter shall be subject to escalating penalties as follows:
 - 1. \$25 for a first offense;*
 - 2. \$50 for a second offense;*
 - 3. \$100 for a third or subsequent offense.**
- b. For minors, any second or subsequent offense shall result in issuance of the summons to the parent or guardian, who shall accompany the minor to Municipal Court.*
- c. Electric bicycles may be impounded upon a third offense. The Municipal Court shall determine the conditions for release, and bicycles seized from minors shall be released only to a parent or guardian.*

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CHAPTER X HEALTH REGULATIONS

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10-2.4 Fees.

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b. Retail Food Establishments.

1. Plan review: \$200
2. Temporary: \$50 [\$100]/day
3. Establishments:

1 to 1,000 square feet	\$250
1,001 to 5,000 square feet	\$325
5,001 to 10,000 square feet	\$390
Over 10,000 square feet	\$455
4. *One Day Temporary* \$25

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d. Food Reinspection and Late Fees.

1. Other than satisfactory: \$50 [\$120]
2. Late fee (per month): \$50 [\$120]

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CHAPTER XIX FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION

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19-18 Lithium Ion Batteries

19-18.1 Purpose and Intent.

The purpose of this chapter is to establish comprehensive safety regulations for the storage, charging, handling, and disposal of lithium-ion batteries and lithium-ion powered mobility devices within the Township. These provisions are designed to address significant fire-safety risks associated with lithium-ion batteries, particularly in multi-family residential buildings, commercial establishments, and warehouses, and to protect the health, safety, and welfare of residents and first responders.

19-18.2 Definitions.

Lithium-Ion Battery

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A rechargeable battery in which electrical current is generated and stored by lithium ions embedded in a carbon graphite or nickel metal-oxide substrate suspended in a high-viscosity carbonate mixture or gel polymer electrolyte.

E-Mobility Device

An e-bike, e-scooter, hoverboard, e-skateboard, self-balancing device, or any other personal mobility device powered in whole or in part by a lithium-ion battery.

Second-Use Lithium-Ion Battery

A lithium-ion battery assembled, reconditioned, repurposed, or renewed using cells removed from previously used storage batteries.

Warehouse

A facility that stores, ships, handles, charges, or maintains e-mobility devices or lithium-ion batteries as part of its inventory or business operations.

Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL)

An organization recognized by OSHA under 29 CFR 1910.7 for testing and certifying product safety.

Certified Lithium-Ion Battery

A lithium-ion battery certified by an NRTL to applicable UL standards including UL 2271, UL 2272, and UL 2849.

19-18.3 Prohibited Batteries and Assembly Practices.

- a. *Prohibition on Second-Use Batteries. It is unlawful to distribute, sell, assemble, repair, recondition, repurpose, or use any second-use lithium-ion battery or any lithium-ion battery assembled using cells removed from previously used storage batteries.*
- b. *UL/NRTL Certification Required. No person or business shall sell, store, or use a lithium-ion battery for an e-mobility device unless it is certified by an NRTL and bears the certification mark. Each non-certified battery constitutes a separate violation.*

19-18.4 Regulation of Charging and Storage in Multi-Family Buildings.

- a. *Prohibited Locations. It is unlawful to store or charge any lithium-ion battery or e-mobility device in the following areas of multi-family residential buildings:*
 - i. *Common areas;*
 - ii. *Hallways;*
 - iii. *Stairwells;*
 - iv. *Means of egress; and*
 - v. *Basements*
- b. *Charging Practices in Permitted Areas. Where charging is permitted (such as designated bike rooms), charging must occur only using the manufacturer-supplied charger, in a room equipped with functioning smoke detection, and in compliance with the New Jersey Uniform Fire Code.*
- c. *Prohibition on Overnight Charging. Unattended or overnight charging is prohibited.*

19-18.5 Regulations for Lithium-Ion Batteries in Warehouses.

- a. *All warehouse operators must classify lithium-ion batteries in accordance with applicable NFPA standards and the New Jersey Uniform Fire Code and shall:*
 - i. *Segregate new, used, damaged, defective, swollen, or recalled batteries into distinct listed fire-rated containers, approved cabinets, or Fire-Official-approved rooms;*
 - ii. *Prohibit co-mingling of damaged or compromised batteries with undamaged inventory; and*
 - iii. *Maintain clear identification and labeling of all categories.*
- b. *Bulk-Storage Limits. No warehouse shall exceed the maximum allowable quantity of lithium-ion batteries or battery-powered devices as established by the Township Fire Official or Fire Marshal pursuant to the New Jersey Fire Code. Storage in excess of such quantities shall require prior written approval from the Fire Official.*
- c. *Fire-Protection, Detection, and Suppression Requirements. All warehouse facilities subject to this section shall maintain and operate:*
 - i. *An approved automatic fire-suppression system capable of addressing thermal-runaway hazards;*
 - ii. *Continuous smoke detection and fire-alarm monitoring, including notification to a central station;*

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h. Violations. Any failure to comply with this section shall constitute a separate violation, subject to enforcement under Section 19-18.6.

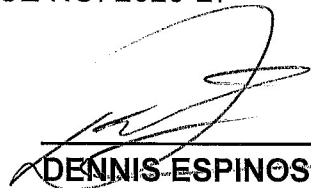
19-18.6 Enforcement.

- a. A violation of this chapter shall be punishable by a warning or fine as set forth in this chapter.*
- b. Prior to any penalty being issued, a New Jersey Fire Code notice of violation will be issued by the Township Fire Marshal.*
- c. If no compliance is established by the abatement date specified on the New Jersey Fire Code notice, a summons will be issued for adjudication in the Piscataway Township Municipal Court, with the maximum penalty of \$2,000 per violation.*
- d. Each violation of this chapter shall constitute a separate penalty independent of any other section or any order issued pursuant to this chapter. Each day's failure to comply with this chapter or subsection shall constitute a separate violation.*

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that if any article, section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is, for any reason, held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance and they shall remain in full force and effect, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.


BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that all other ordinances in conflict or inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed, to the extent of such conflict or inconsistency. In the event of any inconsistencies between the provisions of this Ordinance and any prior ordinance of the Township, the provisions hereof shall be determined to govern. All other parts, portions and provisions of the Ordinances of the Township are hereby ratified and confirmed, except where inconsistent with the terms hereof. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon second reading, final passage and publication as required by law.

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DENNIS ESPINOSA, President of
Township Council

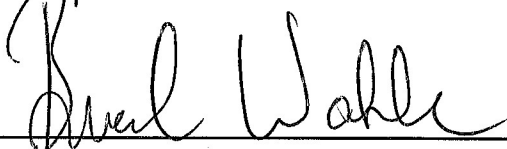
Attest:



MELISSA A. SEADER, Township Clerk

Adopted, First Reading: **November 25, 2025**
Publication Date: **November 30, 2025**


Adopted, Second Reading: **December 9, 2025**
Publication Date: **December 14, 2025**



BRIAN C. WAHLER, Mayor

Date: 12/10/25

CERTIFIED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:



RAJVIR S. GOOMER, ESQ., Director of Law

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of this ordinance is to amend the Revised General Ordinances of the Township of Piscataway regarding the regulation of e-bikes, fees for health regulations, and fire prevention for lithium batteries.