

**ORDINANCE NO. 1896**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 73 OF THE MUNICIPAL  
CODE OF THE CITY OF MARSEILLES, LASALLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
(Low-speed Bicycles and Scooters)**

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**WHEREAS**, the City of Marseilles authorizes and regulates the operation of bicycles in the City limits; and

**WHEREAS**, there has been an increase in popularity in motorized bicycles and scooters; and

**WHEREAS**, the Illinois Vehicle Code has been recently updated regarding the operation of low-speed motorized bicycles and scooters; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 11-1518 of the Illinois Vehicle Code (625 ILCS 5/11-1518), municipalities may authorize and regulate the operation of low-speed electric scooters within the unit of local government on any or all highways under the municipality's jurisdiction, sidewalks, trails, or other public right-of-way subject to the restrictions set forth in Section 11-1518 of the Illinois Vehicle Code; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of the City of Marseilles has determined it is the best interests of the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Marseilles to permit the operation of low-speed motor bicycles and low-speed electric scooters in the City limits subject to limitations.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARSEILLES, ILLINOIS, AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section One:** That the heading titled Power Bicycles above Section 73.015 of the Code of Municipal Ordinances of the City of Marseilles is hereby amended to read as follows:

**LOW-SPEED MOTOR BICYCLES AND OTHER MOTOR DEVICES.**

**Section Two:** That Section 73.015 of the Code of Municipal Ordinances of the City of Marseilles is hereby amended to read as follows:

#### §73.015. DEFINITIONS.

The following words, terms, and phrases, when used in the Low-Speed Motor Driven Bicycles and Other Motor Device subchapter will have the below meanings ascribed to them in this subchapter. All other words and phrases used herein not defined below will have the same meaning as the same or similar words defined by and used in the Illinois Vehicle Code.

**Downtown Business District** is defined as the entirety of Main Street including the sidewalks adjoining Main Street.

**Low-speed electric bicycle** is a bicycle equipped with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of less than 750 watts that meets the requirements of one of the following classes:

- (1) "Class 1 low speed electric bicycle" 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 a speed of 20 miles per hour.
- (2) "Class 2 low-speed electric bicycle" 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 a speed of 20 miles per hour
- (3) "Class 3 low-speed electric bicycle" 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 a speed of 28 miles per hour.

**Low-speed gas bicycle** is a 2-wheeled or 3-wheeled device with fully operable pedals and a gasoline motor of less than one horsepower or 15 cubic centimeter displacement that is operated at speeds of less than 20 miles per hour.

**Section Three:** That Section 73.016 of the Code of Municipal Ordinances of the City of Marseilles is hereby amended to read as follows:

#### §73.016 REGULATIONS OF LOW-SPEED BICYCLES AND MOTOR DEVICES.

##### A. *Operation of Low-Speed Electric Bicycles On City Streets.*

- 1) Low-speed electric bicycles may be operated on city streets with a posted speed limit of 25 mph or less. Low-speed electric bicycles are not to be operated on city streets with speed limits greater than 25 mph, on public sidewalks, in public parks, or on other public property within the City.
- 2) No person shall operate a low-speed electric bicycle at a speed or in a manner that would endanger the health or safety of any person, including the operator of the device.
- 3) Any person operating a low-speed electric bicycle on permitted city streets is

subject to all the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle under the Illinois Vehicle Code, except as to special regulations set forth in this Chapter, Chapter 11 of the Illinois Vehicle Code, and those provisions of the Illinois Vehicle Code which by their nature can have no application. It is unlawful for any person to fail to perform any act required by this Section or any applicable provision of the Illinois Vehicle Code while riding or operating a low-speed motor device within the City.

- 4) Any person operating a low-speed electric bicycle must comply with all applicable ordinances set forth in Sections 73.001 through 73.006 of this Code including requirements regarding lamps when using the bicycle at nighttime.

*B. Age Requirements and license.*

- 1) Any person operating a low-speed electric bicycle (Class 1, Class 2, or Class 3) must be a minimum of 16 years of age. This age limitation does not apply to a Class 1 or Class 2 low-speed electric bicycle that is being operated under manual power only and without utilizing motorized propulsion or assistance.
- 2) A driver's license is not required to operate a low-speed electric bicycle.

*C. Prohibitions on Other Motor Devices.*

- 1) No person may operate a low-speed gas bicycle on any public street, roadway, alley, sidewalk, bicycle path, multi-use path, parking lot, or on any other public property.
- 2) No person may operate any cycle, bicycle, scooter, or similar device on any public street, roadway, alley, sidewalk, bicycle path, multi-use path, parking lot, or on other public property within the City that is equipped with i) an electric-powered motor of 750 watts or more or ii) a gas powered engine of more than 1 horsepower or bigger than 15 cubic centimeter displacement.

*D. Exceptions.* Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit the use of a motorized wheelchair or similar personal mobility device that is designed for and used by a person with disabilities on any sidewalk, multi-use path, or other public way consistent with the rights and duties applicable to pedestrians.

**Section Four:** That Section 73.017 of the Code of Municipal Ordinances of the City of Marseilles is hereby amended by the addition of Section 73.017 to read as follows:

**§73.017 PENALTIES.**

- A. Any person found violating any provision of Section 73.016 is subject to fines not less than \$150.00 and no more than \$750.00 for each offense.
- B. Any motor device found in violation of this municipal code may be impounded by the Marseilles Police Department and held for 24 hours before being eligible for release.

**Section Five:** That Section 73.030 of the Code of Municipal Ordinances of the City of

Marseilles is hereby amended to read as follows:

§73.030 DEFINITIONS.

The following definitions will apply to this subchapter as written unless context indicates or requires a different meaning. All other words and phrases used herein not defined below will have the same meaning as the same or similar words defined by and used in the Illinois Vehicle Code.

**Moped or Scooter** is a motor driven cycle, with or without optional power derived from manually operated pedals, whose speed attainable in one mile is at least 20 mph but not greater than 30 mph, and is equipped with a motor that produces 2 brake horsepower or less. If an internal combustion engine is used, the displacement shall not exceed 50 cubic centimeter displacement, and the power drive system shall not require the operator to shift gears. A moped or scooter does not include a low-speed electric scooter.

**Low-speed electric scooter** is a device weighing less than 100 pounds, with 2 or 3 wheels, handlebars, and a floorboard that can be stood upon while riding that is powered by an electric motor and/or human power, and whose maximum speed, with or without human propulsion, is no more than 10 miles per hour. A low-speed electric scooter does not include a moped or motor-driven cycle.

**Section Six:** That Section 73.032 of the Code of Municipal Ordinances of the City of

Marseilles is hereby amended by the addition of Section 73.032 to read as follows:

§73.032 REGULATIONS OF LOW-SPEED ELECTRIC SCOOTERS

*A. Operation in the City.*

- (1) Low-speed electric scooters may be operated on city streets with a posted speed limit of 25 mph or less, except on roadways in the downtown business district as defined in Section 73.015.
- (2) Low-speed electric scooters may be operated on city sidewalks, except for sidewalks in the downtown business district defined in Section 73.015.
- (3) Except as permitted in paragraphs A(1) and A(2) in this section, low-speed electric scooters shall not be operated on any other streets, roadways, or on any other public property in the city.
- (4) A person may not use a low-speed electric scooter to carry more than one person at a time.
- (5) A person may not operate a low-speed electric scooter while carrying any package, bundle, or article that prevents the operator from keeping at least one hand upon the handlebars.
- (6) No person shall operate a low-speed electric scooter at a speed or in a manner that would endanger the health or safety of any person, including the operator of the low-speed electric scooter.
- (7) Any person operating a low-speed electric scooter on permitted city streets is

subject to all the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle under the Illinois Vehicle Code, except as to special regulations set forth in this Chapter, Chapter 11 of the Illinois Vehicle Code, and those provisions of the Illinois Vehicle Code which by their nature can have no application. It is unlawful for any person to fail to perform any act required by this Section or any applicable provision of the Illinois Vehicle Code while riding or operating a low-speed motor device within the City.

**B. *Equipment.***

- (1) Every low-speed electric scooter must be equipped with a brake that will adequately control movement of and stop and hold the low-speed electric scooter.
- (2) Every low-speed electric scooter when in use at nighttime must be equipped with a lamp on the front that emits a white light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the front and with a red reflector on the rear that is visible from all distances from 100 feet to 600 feet to the rear when directly in front of a lawful lower beams of headlamps or on a motor vehicle, except that a lamp emitting a steady or flashing red light visible from a distance of 500 feet to the rear may be used in addition to or instead of the red reflector.
- (3) A low-speed electric scooter shall not be equipped with nor shall any person use upon a low-speed electric scooter any siren. This subsection does not apply to a low-speed electric scooter that is a police vehicle or fire department vehicle.

- C. *Age requirements.*** Any person operating a low-speed electric scooter must be 18 years of age or older to operate on permitted roadways. No driver's license is required for the operation of a low-speed electric scooter.

**Section Seven:** That Section 73.033 of the Code of Municipal Ordinances of the City of Marseilles is hereby amended by the addition of Section 73.033 to read as follows:

**§73.033 PENALTIES**

- A. Any person found violating any provision of this chapter is subject to fines not less than \$150.00 and no more than \$750.00 for each offense.
- B. Any low-speed electric scooter found in violation of this municipal code may be impounded by the Marseilles Police Department and held for 24 hours before being eligible for release.

**Section Eight:** All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are repealed.

**Section Nine:** This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval, and publication in pamphlet form.

	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Commissioner Small	_____	_____	_____
Commissioner Kaminski	_____	_____	_____
Commissioner Scheib	_____	_____	_____
Commissioner Buckingham	_____	_____	_____
Mayor Hollenbeck	_____	_____	_____

**PASSED** and **APPROVED** this 1<sup>st</sup> day of October 2025.

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jim Hollenbeck, Mayor**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Lesley Hart, City Clerk**

Published in pamphlet form by authority of the Council of the City of Marseilles, LaSalle County, Illinois this \_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.