



The Arsenal Central Park New York, NY 10065 www.nyc.gov/parks

To: File

From: Sue Donoghue, Commissioner

CC: Alessandro Olivieri

Re: Variance for NYC Parks Rule §1-05(n)(1)

Date: May 29, 2025

Pursuant to my authority under § 533(a)(9) of the New York City Charter to establish and enforce rules for the use, governance, and protection of public and of all property under the charge or control New York City Department of Parks & Recreation ("NYC Parks"), on June 16, 2023, I granted a variance pursuant to Title 56 § 1-01(c) of the Rules of the City of New York, regarding Title 56 § 1-05(n)(1) of the Rules of the City of New York. I granted a first extension to the variance on May 30, 2024.

While the variance regarding § 1-05(n)(1) is in effect, e-bikes in Class 1, 2, and 3, electric scooters (please refer to exhibit A, which sets forth the specific bikes and scooters covered by this variance) may be operated within NYC Parks jurisdiction anywhere a human-powered bicycle may be operated. Specifically, e-bikes, e-scooters (identified in exhibit A) may be operated on park drives and NYC greenways under the jurisdiction of NYC Parks (including those otherwise closed to motor vehicles), subject to the rules currently applicable to bicycles. Operators of such e-bikes and e-scooters must follow signs and road markings, obey applicable speed limits, yield to pedestrians, and stop lights and comply with all applicable NYC Parks rules.

For clarification, this variance does not allow use of such e-bikes and e-scooters on park paths or sidewalks and does not allow the use of mopeds, including electric mopeds, or e-mobility devices not presently legal to operate in NYC—including but not limited to hoverboards, battery-powered skateboards, and electric unicycles—in Parks. On park paths and sidewalks, bicycles, e-bikes, and e-scooters must be walked. Note: This variance does not affect the Hudson River Greenway south of 59<sup>th</sup> Street (as depicted in Exhibit B), where e-bikes and e-scooters are prohibited by State law.

The rationale for the initial variance is still applicable as the continuation of the variance will allow for the finalization of new safety initiatives for park drives and greenways as Parks decides on potential rule changes involving e-bikes and e-scooters. I am, therefore, extending this variance to December 31, 2025.



## Not included in Pilot

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Know the difference

How fast

can I go? Do I need

Do I need to

register my

Where can

bike?

E-Bike Class 1

Electrio Bike

with Pedal Assist

E-Bike Class 2

Electric Bike,

Throttle up to 20 MPH, Operable

E-Bike Class 3 Electric Blke,

Moped Class B Umited Use

Motorcycle. Low-speed 2-3 Wheels

Moped Class A

Motorcyc

Device with

E-Scooters

bevice with handlebars, a floorboard or sest, weighing less than 100 fbs, Can be powered by elec-tric and/or human power

**20 MPH** 

No

No

Bike Lanes\*

30 MPH

cyclists

and streets with speed limits no greater than

Recommended

for all, Required

olds and working

for 16-17 year



**20 MPH** 

No

No

Bike Lanes\*

30 MPH

cyclists

and streets with

speed limits no greater than

Recommended

for all, Required

olds and working

for 16-17 year



**25 MPH** 

No

No

Bite Lanes'

30 MPH

Required by

law

and streets with

speed limits no greater than

Throttle up to 25 MPH, Operable Pedals



20 MPH

Yes, Most be

have brense ptoles & VINs

Right lane and/or shou

registered with





0 MP

S DMV, m



Yes, Davar's treense Endorsoment Yes, Must be

registered with NYS DMV, must

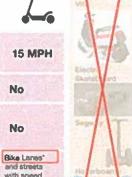
Right lene

Required by law

Yes.

with speed limits no greater than 30 MPH

Recommended for all, Required for 16-17 year olds



to wear a

helmet?

<sup>&</sup>quot;Including on bridges
" including vehicle lanes on bridges





State Law prohibiting e-bikes/e-scooters from the Hudson River Greenway applies between West  $59^{th}$  Street and Battery Place.