



Policy Type: Administrative

Category: Vehicles

Policy Name: Motorized Scooters

Policy Owner: County Executive

Policy Purpose

While it is recognized that Motorized Scooters may be one way to reduce greenhouse gas emissions related to transportation, Motorized Scooters present, however, risks of injury due to the limited restrictions on their use, including the lack of a helmet requirement for adult users and the lack of standardized training for safe use. The County must manage risks to employees and to users of County facilities, and this policy provides guidance relating to the use of Motorized Scooters on County Property, including use by employees for business purposes.

The County of Santa Clara has reduced its carbon footprint by implementing energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. In addition to the County's efforts to address its own carbon footprint, the County also has a responsibility to encourage the wider community to engage in activities and enterprises that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including the use of Motorized Scooters as a complement to public transportation.

Policy Summary

Motorized Scooters made available by private companies have the potential to help bridge the gap between public transit and a commuter's end destination and can reduce greenhouse gas emissions and traffic congestion in the region. The California Vehicle Code places requirements



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on users of Motorized Scooters relating to licensing, speed restrictions, and a prohibition against use on a sidewalk. As the use of Motorized Scooters for short journeys has grown in popularity, the failure of most riders to adhere to State and local laws creates a risk of injury for both riders and pedestrians.

Prohibition on the Operation of Motorized Scooters on County Property

The operation of Motorized Scooters on County Property is prohibited except where permitted within a public park or on a public trail in accordance with the County Ordinance Code and other applicable law. Motorized Scooters may be walked onto County Property for the purpose of parking before accessing County facilities.

Use of Motorized Scooters by County Employees

Use of a Motorized Scooter is not permitted for purposes of conducting County business.

Improperly Parked or Abandoned Motorized Scooters on County Property

The County may remove improperly parked or abandoned Motorized Scooters on County Property. Where the County removes an improperly parked or abandoned Motorized Scooter, it shall relocate the scooter in accordance with local laws so as not to create a hazard or impediment.

Procedures

None.

Definitions



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- 1) "County Property" means any real property, including any buildings thereon, owned or leased by the County, including property owned by the County that is in the possession of a public or private entity under contract with the County to perform a public purpose. County Property includes, but is not limited to, real property owned or leased by the County in the unincorporated and incorporated portions of Santa Clara County, and the Santa Clara County Fairgrounds located within an unincorporated pocket in the City of San José. County Property does not include any public right-of-way owned by the County, including any area across, along, on, over, upon, and within the dedicated public alleys, boulevards, courts, lanes, roads, sidewalks, streets, expressways, and ways within Santa Clara County.

- 2) "Motorized Scooter" has the same meaning as provided by the California Vehicle Code Section 407.5, which provides that a "motorized scooter" is any two-wheeled device that has handlebars, has a floorboard that is designed to be stood upon when riding, and is powered by an electric motor, and may also be designed to be powered by human propulsion. A motorcycle, a motor-driven cycle, or a motorized bicycle or moped, is not a Motorized Scooter. A device meeting this definition that is powered by a source other than electrical power is also a Motorized Scooter. "Mobility scooters" as described in the California Vehicle Code are not Motorized Scooters for purposes of this Policy.

Frequently Asked Questions

None.

Related Policies



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- Comprehensive Vehicle Policy - Board Policy 3.52 - <https://saecommon.sccgov.org/countypolicy/Board-Policy-3.52-Comprehensive-Vehicle-Policy.pdf>
- County Vehicle Driver Policies and Training - <https://saecommon.sccgov.org/countypolicy/County-Vehicle-Driver-Policies-and-Training.pdf>
- Parking and Transit Information - <https://saecommon.sccgov.org/countypolicy/Parking-and-Transit-Information.pdf>

Related Forms and Information

None.

History

Date	Changes Made
7/8/2019	Policy Uploaded. (Kyle Larson)
7/2/2019	Policy Adopted.