

PUBLIC WORKS

Priya Dhanapal Deputy City Administrator



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March 19, 2025

Chairs McLain and Gorsek, and Members of Joint Transportation Committee
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court St NE
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chairs McLain and Gorsek, and Members of the Joint Transportation Committee:

The Portland Bureau of Transportation supports HB 3626, which will establish clear, consistent statewide rules to guide the safe and responsible use of e-bikes and other micromobility devices.

Portland has experienced growth in use of electric micromobility, which provides useful transportation options that are lower-cost, less carbon-intensive, and more efficient than driving a car.

Bureau of Transportation staff participated in the state Micromobility Working Group chaired by Rep. Daniel Nguyen, and we appreciate the thoughtful work that has gone into development of this bill. Current micromobility laws are inconsistent, creating confusion for riders, drivers, and local agencies. HB 3626 reduces ambiguity by establishing definitions, standardized safety requirements, and enforcement tools that prioritize safety without limiting access to low-cost transportation options.

We encourage the legislature to consider the following amendments:

- The treatment of age is inconsistent. The age requirement to operate a powered micromobility device (which could go up to 30mph) is 12 years and older, but the age requirement to operate a class 3 e-bike (which could go up to 28mph) is 16 years and older.
- The application of the helmet requirement is also inconsistent. A helmet is required for in-line skates, but no mention is made of other modes, such as roller skates.
- The battery safety standards should be applied to all e-bikes, e-scooters and other electric micromobility devices to ensure safety.
- Section 23 should be amended to extend the repeal, allowing more time for education.
- Increased funding would support more robust and broad education.

The City of Portland urges the legislature to pass HB 3626 to promote safe, accessible, and well-regulated micromobility across Oregon.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this bill.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Priya Dhanapal in black ink.

Priya Dhanapal
Deputy City Administrator
Portland Public Works Service Area

Handwritten signature of Millicent Williams in black ink.

Millicent Williams, Director
Portland Bureau of Transportation



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