

**CITY OF NORTHFIELD, NJ
ORDINANCE 18-2025**

AMENDING CHAPTER 111 ENTITLED VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Northfield recognizes the proliferation of Bicycles, Low-Speed Electric Bicycles, Low Speed Electric Scooters, Motorized Bicycles, Motorized Scooters, Motorized Skateboards and Hoverboards and other Electric Personal Assistive Mobility Devices; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Northfield seeks to promote and establish guidelines for the safe and responsible use of Bicycles, Low-Speed Electric Bicycles, Low Speed Electric Scooters, Motorized Bicycles, Motorized Scooters, Motorized Skateboards and Hoverboards and other Electric Personal Assistive Mobility Devices;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Common Council of the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, and State of New Jersey that Chapter 111 of the Code of the City of Northfield is hereby amended as follows (added text underlined; deleted text ~~stricken~~):

ARTICLE I - Definitions

§ 111-1. Words and phrases defined.

Whenever any words and phrases are used in this chapter, the meanings respectively ascribed to them in Subtitle 1 of Title 39 of the Revised Statutes of New Jersey, as amended from time to time, shall be deemed to apply to such words and phrases herein.

ARTICLE IA – Operation of Bicycles¹, Low-Speed Electric Bicycles², Low Speed Electric Scooters², Motorized Bicycles², Motorized Scooters², Motorized Skateboards², and Hoverboards and other Electric Personal Assistive Mobility Devices³.

¹ As defined in NJSA 39:4-14.5

² As defined in NJSA 39:1-1

³As defined in NJSA 39:14.10 except as otherwise protected under The Americans With Disabilities Act, as amended from time to time.

SECTION 1 - DEFINITIONS:

Bicycles¹

Low-Speed Electric Bicycles²

- Includes Classes I and II

Low Speed Electric Scooters²

Motorized Bicycles²
Motorized Scooters²
Motorized Skateboards²

Hoverboards and other Electric Personal Assistive Mobility Devices³

SECTION 2 - Operation of Bicycles¹, Low-Speed Electric Bicycles², Low Speed Electric Scooters², Motorized Bicycles², Motorized Scooters², Motorized Skateboards², and Hoverboards and other Electric Personal Assistive Mobility Devices³.

1. Obedience to traffic-control devices. Any person operating any of the above devices shall obey the instructions of official traffic control signals, signs, and other control devices applicable to vehicles, unless otherwise directed by a police officer, and shall ride as near to the right-side of the traveled roadway as practicable, exercising due care when passing a pedestrian, a standing vehicle or one proceeding in the same direction.

2. Lights and reflectors. Every bicycle, low-speed electric bicycle, low-speed electric scooter, motorized bicycle, or motorized scooter shall have reflectors in the front and back. Every bicycle, low-speed electric bicycle, low-speed electric scooter, motorized bicycle, or motorized scooter, when in use at nighttime, shall be equipped with a lamp on the front which shall emit a white light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the front, and with a lamp on the rear which shall emit a red light visible from a distance of at least 500 feet to the rear.

3. Audible sound/signal. No person shall operate a bicycle, low-speed electric bicycle, low-speed electric scooter, motorized bicycle, or motorized scooter unless it is equipped with a bell or other device capable of giving a signal audible for a distance of at least 100 feet, except that such bicycle, low-speed electric bicycle, low-speed electric scooter, motorized bicycle, or motorized scooter shall not be equipped with, nor shall any person use upon a bicycle, low-speed electric bicycle, low-speed electric scooter, motorized bicycle, or motorized scooter any siren or whistle.

4. Helmet. Any person under the age of 17 operating any of the above devices are required to wear a protective helmet pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:4-10.1.

5. Reckless or careless riding. No person shall ride or operate any of the above devices in a reckless or careless manner which endangers or is likely to endanger the safety or welfare of themselves or other persons or property.

6. No person operating any of the above devices shall attach themselves to any streetcar or vehicle.

7. The operator of any of the above devices shall not allow others to hitch or hold onto any of the above devices.

8. Passengers. It shall be prohibited for a person operating any of the above devices to allow another person to ride as a passenger, unless the person is carried in a proper bike seat, trailer or other accessory that complies with current regulations and contains adequate provision for retaining the passenger in place and for protecting the passenger in place and for protecting the passenger. The passenger shall also be required to wear a properly fitted and fastened helmet pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:4-10.1

9. Speed. No person shall operate any of the above devices at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions then existing.

10. Riding in a group. Persons operating any of the above devices in a group or more than one shall ride in a single file line and yield the right-of-way to pedestrians.

11. Cell phones. The use of handheld cell phones, or similar devices, while operating any of the above devices is prohibited.

12. Brakes. Every bicycle, low-speed electric bicycle, low-speed electric scooter, motorized bicycle, or motorized scooter shall be equipped with a brake which will enable the operator to make the braked wheel skid on a dry, level, clean pavement.

13. Music. Playing music or other audio through speakers or other audio device at a volume that compromises safe operating conditions while operating any of the above devices is prohibited.

14. Carrying Articles. No person operating a bicycle, low-speed electric bicycle, low-speed electric scooter, motorized bicycle, or motorized scooter shall carry any package, bundle, or article which prevents the user from keeping both hands upon the handlebars.

SECTION 3 - Labels & Modification/Tampering thereof.

1. All low-speed electric bicycles, motorized bicycles, and low-speed electric scooters shall be affixed in a prominent location with a label displaying their classification, top assisted speed, and motor wattage, and tampering with these specifications is prohibited without updating the label.

2. Any modification or tampering with an electric bicycle, motorized bicycle, and low-speed electric scooter that alters its motor-powered speed capability without updating the label to reflect the new specifications is prohibited.

SECTION 4 - Parking and Storage.

1. All of the above devices must be parked in designated bicycle parking areas without obstructing pedestrian or other pathways.

2. All of the above devices must be stored in a safe place to prevent fire hazards

associated with lithium-ion batteries which include:

- a. Storing the above devices away from flammable materials and in well-ventilated areas.
- b. Avoid overcharging batteries and following manufacturer guidelines for battery maintenance.
- c. Regularly inspecting batteries for damage and properly disposing of defective batteries.

SECTION 5 - Motorized Bicycles.

Motorized bicycles are prohibited, unless such vehicle is specifically authorized by New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission and is properly registered and insured, and can only be operated by licensed operators, on the roadways in accordance with the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Code. Operators are required to wear a protective helmet pursuant to applicable State law.

SECTION 6 - Abandonment.

1. It shall be unlawful for any person, user, or owner of any of the above devices to abandon within the City of Northfield.

2. The above devices may be deemed abandoned if:

- a. It has been parked for a period of forty-eight (48) or more consecutive hours, except in a designated bicycle or low-speed scooter racks and or approved marked areas; or
- b. It appears visually to be in a state of prolonged disuse, such as but not limited to that it has deflated tires, damaged or missing battery or equipment make it inoperable, or accumulated debris; or
- c. It is parked, placed, or left on the roadway or in any public right-of-way in violation of this Ordinance.

3. In the event that any of the above devices is deemed to be abandoned, as defined herein, the City's Police Department shall have the authority to seize and impound same pursuant to this section and remove it from any public space.

SECTION 7 - Duty of Parent or Guardian.

It shall be unlawful for any parent or guardian to permit any minor child for whom they are a parent or guardian to violate any provision of the Chapter.

SECTION 8 - Penalties.

Any person who violates any provision of this Chapter shall, upon conviction, be liable to a penalty of up to \$2,000.00. No court appearance shall be required for a first or second alleged offense but will be required for a third or subsequent alleged offense.

ARTICLE II - Parking Restrictions (NO CHANGE)

ARTICLE III - Vehicle Weight Restrictions (NO CHANGE)

ARTICLE IV - One-Way Streets (NO CHANGE)

ARTICLE V -Through Streets; Stop and Yield Intersections (NO CHANGE)

ARTICLE VI - Loading Zones (NO CHANGE)

ARTICLE VII - Taxi Stands (NO CHANGE)

ARTICLE VIII - Bus Stops (NO CHANGE)

ARTICLE IX - Turn Prohibitions (NO CHANGE)

ARTICLE X - Lane Use (NO CHANGE)

ARTICLE XI - Parking Area Entrances and Exits (NO CHANGE)

ARTICLE XII - Penalties; Repealer

§ 111-24. Violations and penalties.

Unless another penalty is expressly provided by New Jersey statute, every person convicted of a violation of a provision of this chapter or any supplement thereto shall be liable to a penalty of up to \$2,000.00 ~~payable through the Violations Bureau.~~

§ 111-25. Repealer. (NO CHANGE)

ARTICLE XIII - Official Time Standard (NO CHANGE)

ARTICLE XIII A - Speed Limits (NO CHANGE)

ARTICLE XIII B - Northfield Municipal Building (NO CHANGE)

ARTICLE XIII C - Otto Bruyns Public Library of Northfield (NO CHANGE)

ARTICLE XIII D - Northfield City Garage (NO CHANGE)

ARTICLE XIII E - Parks and Recreation Areas (NO CHANGE)

ARTICLE XIII F - Northfield Community School (NO CHANGE)

ARTICLE XIII G - In-Street Pedestrian Rights-of-Way (NO CHANGE)

ARTICLE XIV - Schedules (NO CHANGE)

ARTICLE XV - Northfield Bike Path

§ 111-46. Statutory provisions. (NO CHANGE)

§ 111-47. General parking. (NO CHANGE)

§ 111-48. Tow-away zones. (NO CHANGE)

§ 111-49. Use of roads by authorized vehicles only.

The following streets or parts shall be designated for use by authorized vehicles only, such as police vehicles, ambulances and municipal vehicles. No vehicle other than an authorized vehicle and any of the devices defined in Article 1A of this chapter shall enter upon the below roads:

Name of Street	Limits
All roadways and paths	Entire length

§ 111-50. Motor vehicles prohibited and Speed Limit Established.

"Motor-driven vehicles" include, but are not limited to, minibikes, motor scooters, go-carts, swamp buggies, snowmobiles, motorized bicycles, motorcycles, and any other similar type of motor-driven vehicle, but shall not include any of the devices defined in Article 1A or motor-operated conveyances for physically handicapped persons. The operation and/or use of motor-driven vehicles shall be prohibited along the bicycle and pedestrian path located in the City of Northfield, County of Atlantic, between Dolphin Avenue to the City of Northfield/ City of Linwood corporate line.

A. The operation and/or use of a Motorized Bicycle or any other type of motor-driven vehicle shall be prohibited along the bicycle path, located within the City of Northfield.

B. The operation and/or use of Class-1 and Class-2 low-speed electric bicycles are permitted along the bicycle path at a speed not to exceed ten (10) miles per hour.

§ 111-51. Crosswalks/bike crossings. (NO CHANGE)

§ 111-52. Signs and posts.

All signs, posts, or other necessary materials shall ~~be installed and paid for by the applicant. All signing shall conform~~ to the current Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:4-198 and N.J.S.A. 39:4-183.27.

§ 111-53. Violations and penalties.

Unless another penalty is expressly provided for by New Jersey statute, every person convicted of a violation of this article or any supplement thereto shall be liable to a penalty of not more than ~~\$2000.00~~⁵⁰ or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 15 days, or both.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

- 1) This ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication in the manner prescribed by law.
- 2) Repealer. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistencies.
- 3) Severability. If any Section or part of this Ordinance is deemed to be invalid or illegal in any Court of competent jurisdiction then said part is severable from the Ordinance as a whole and the remaining sections or parts of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

Mary Canesi, RMC, Municipal Clerk

Erland Chau, Mayor

The above Ordinance was introduced and passed on its first reading at a regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Northfield, New Jersey held on October 7, 2025, and will be taken up for a second reading, public hearing and final passage at a meeting of said Council held October 21, 2025, in Council Chambers, City Hall, Northfield, New Jersey.

FIRST READING:	October 7, 2025
PUBLICATION:	October 11, 2025
SECOND READING:	October 21, 2025
PUBLICATION:	October 25, 2025