



MICHAEL KENT
CHIEF OF POLICE

IRVINE POLICE

D E P A R T M E N T

1 Civic Center Plaza, Irvine, CA 92606 • 949-724-7000 • irvinepd.org

E-Bike Safety Guidelines for Riders and Parents

Written by Sherry Chen, Community Outreach Specialist

Electric bicycles (e-bikes) have become popular transportation in Irvine, offering a fun and sustainable way for residents to get around. Here are some guidelines for riders and parents.

Understanding E-Bikes and Rules of the Road

California law recognizes three distinct classes of e-bikes.

- **Class 1:** Pedal-assist only with a top speed of 20 mph. (No age limit)
- **Class 2:** Throttle-assisted with a top speed of 20 mph. (No age limit)
- **Class 3:** Pedal-assist only with a top speed of 28 mph. (Age 16+, helmet required)

E-bike riders have the same rights—and responsibilities—as motor vehicle drivers.

- **Obey Traffic Signals:** You must stop at all stop signs and red lights.
- **Direction of Travel:** Always ride in the same direction as traffic.
- **Sidewalk Rules:** In Irvine, riding on sidewalks is generally permitted unless signs say otherwise. However, you must yield to pedestrians and keep your speed under 20 mph.
- **Bike Lanes:** Use designated bike lanes whenever available and stay to the right side of the road.

Tips for Riders and Parents:

- **Know the Legal Bike Type:** Popular models like *Surron* and *Talaria* are not e-bikes but considered e-motorcycles. Lift up the back wheel and use the throttle to test the vehicle's max speed.
- **Safety Essentials:** Wear a helmet properly following the “2-2-2 rule”, be visible, and stay alert (no headphones while travelling).

We are committed to e-bike safety through community outreach events, enforcement, and educational programs. To report unsafe or reckless e-bike behavior, please call 949-724-7000 or dial 911 for emergencies. Please visit <https://irvinepd.gov> for more safety information.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



IrvinePD



[irvinepolice](https://www.instagram.com/irvinepolice)



[irvinepolice](https://twitter.com/irvinepolice)



[irvine-pd](https://nextdoor.com/profile/irvine-pd)



[company
/irvine-police](https://www.linkedin.com/company/irvine-police)

For more information on crime prevention and personal safety, visit: crimeprevention@cityofirvine.org

“In Partnership with the Community”