



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, November 17, 2025, at 5:00 PM
Snoqualmie City Hall, 38624 SE River Street & Zoom

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chair: Rob Wotton

Councilmembers: Cara Christensen and Catherine Cotton

This meeting will be conducted in person and remotely using Zoom.

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CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

AGENDA APPROVAL

PUBLIC COMMENTS (online public comments will not be taken).

MINUTES

- [1.](#) Approval of the minutes dated November 3, 2025.

AGENDA BILLS

- [2.](#) **AB25-120:** Electric Motorcycle Ordinance

DISCUSSION

3. Crisis Care Center Update

ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

ADJOURNMENT



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE & COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 3, 2025

This meeting was conducted in person at Snoqualmie City Hall and remotely using Zoom.

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL – Chair Wotton called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Committee Members: Councilmembers Rob Wotton and Catherine Cotton were present. CM Christensen's absence was excused.

Mayor Katherine Ross was also present.

City Staff:

Mike Chambless, City Administrator; Dena Burke, City Attorney; Gary Horejsi, Interim Police Chief; Mike Bailey, Fire Chief; Deana Dean, City Clerk; Robert Thrall, Legal Assistant; and Jimmie Betts, IT Support.

AGENDA APPROVAL – The agenda was approved as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – There were no public comments.

MINUTES – The minutes dated October 20, 2025, were approved as presented.

AGENDA BILLS

2. AB25-101: South King County Fire Training Consortium Interlocal Agreement. Discussion led by Fire Chief Bailey. Redlined version of the proposed ILA was provided as a handout. Committee comments followed. This item is approved to move forward at the November 10, 2025, City Council meeting on the consent agenda.

DISCUSSION

3. Fire Department 3rd Quarter Accreditation Report. Discussion led by Chief Bailey who reviewed report details including incidents, fire inspections, and property lost/saved. Committee questions and comments made throughout the discussion.

CM Christensen appeared remotely at 5:15 pm.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

- Crisis Care Center update by CM Cotton to be heard at the next committee meeting.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 5:32 pm.

Minutes prepared by Deana Dean, City Clerk.

Recorded meeting audio is available on the city website after the meeting.

Minutes approved at the _____ Public Safety Committee Meeting.

Council Agenda Bill

AB Number

AB25-120

Agenda Bill Information

Title*

Electric Motorcycle Ordinance

Action*

Motion

Council Agenda Section

Ordinance

Council Meeting Date*

11/24/2025

Staff Member

Gary Horejsi

Department*

Police

Committee

Public Safety

Committee Date

11/17/2025

Exhibits

Packet Attachments - If any

E-Motorcycle Ordinance .docx

32.47KB

Ord 1315 E-Motorcycles.docx

25.73KB

Summary

Introduction*

Brief summary.

The City of Snoqualmie has seen an increase in electric motorcycles (also known as e-motorcycles). This city proposes adding an ordinance to clearly define an electric motorcycle along with requirements for operation in the city limits.

Proposed Motion

Move to approve Ordinance 1315 adopting SMC Chapter 10.36 to define and regulate electric motorcycles.

Background/Overview*

What was done (legislative history, previous actions, ability to hyperlink)

The City of Snoqualmie has seen an increase in electric motorcycles over the past few years. E-motorcycles represent a potential safety hazard to other motor vehicle drivers and pedestrians due to their rapid acceleration, high speeds, and their common use among our youth with observed dangerous behaviors. In Washington State

according to the Washington Traffic Safety Commission, fatalities from motorcycles have increased from 75 in 2015 to 139 in 2023. The electric dirtbike market in the United States is expected to grow from \$500 million in 2024 to \$1.7 billion in 2033 according to Core Logic Insights.

The proposed ordinance would adopt chapter 10.36 into the Snoqualmie Municipal Code. The proposed ordinance defines and "electric motorcycle" as a motorcycle, as defined by RCW 46.04.330: which is powered by an electric motor. To differentiate an electric motorcycle from an electric bicycle an electric motorcycle:

- Is not equipped with fully operable pedals capable of propelling it. Foot pegs are not considered pedals; or
- Has a motor with a power output that exceeds 750 watts; or
- Has a motor that continues to provide assistance when the vehicle reaches the speed of twenty-eight miles per hour.

The ordinance consistent with State law, requires electric motorcycles to register with the Washington State Department of Licensing, and are subject to the provisions of RCW 46.61.705 (Off-road Motorcycles). The must display a valid license plate and may only be operated by individuals with a valid driver's license and motorcycle endorsement.

The ordinance also:

- Prohibits guardians from authorizing or knowingly permitting a minor in their care to operate an electric motorcycle in violation of Snoqualmie Municipal Code Chapter 10.36 and subjecting violating guardians to fines.
- Requires electric motorcycle operators to obey all traffic laws subject to RCW 46.61 and provide that infractions are subject to a monetary penalty.
- Requires any person operating an electric motorcycle to wear a helmet.
- Permits law enforcement officers to impound and establishes penalties for an electric motorcycle operated in violation of Snoqualmie Municipal Code 10.36

Analysis*

This ordinance clearly defines an electric motorcycle and establishes requirements for their operation as a way to help keep our community and our youth safe.

Budgetary Status*

This action has no budgetary implications.

Budget Summary

ORDINANCE NO. 1315**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SNOQUALMIE, WASHINGTON,
ADOPTING CHAPTER 10.36 TO SNOQUALMIE MUNICIPAL CODE
RELATED TO ELECTRIC MOTORCYCLES; AND PROVIDING FOR
SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, the City has experienced an increase in the operations of electric motorcycles within the City; and

WHEREAS, the City seeks to regulate electric motorcycles to enhance the health, safety, and welfare of its residence in a manner similar to its regulation of motorized electric bikes and electric motorized foot scooters; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that providing safety requirements for electric motorcycles will increase the health, safety, and welfare of its residence and the community; and

WHEREAS, accordingly desires to adopt a new Chapter 10.36 of the Snoqualmie Municipal Code regulating the use of electric motorcycles.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SNOQUALMIE, WASHINGTON, DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. New Chapter Adopted: A new Chapter 10.36 of the Snoqualmie Municipal Code, to be entitled "Electric Motorcycles" is hereby adopted, to read as set forth in Exhibit A attached hereto and by this reference fully incorporated herein.

Section 2. Effective Date. This ordinance shall be effective five days after publication as provided by law.

Section 3. Corrections by City Clerk or Code Reviser. Upon approval of the City Attorney, the City Clerk or the code reviser are authorized to make necessary corrections to this ordinance, including the correction of clerical errors; references to other local, state or federal laws, codes, rules, or regulations; or ordinance numbering anti section/subsection numbering.

Section 4. Severability. If any one or more section, subsection, or sentence of this ordinance is held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this ordinance and the same shall remain in full force and effect.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Snoqualmie, Washington, this 8th day of December 2025.

Katherine Ross, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Deana Dean, City Clerk

Dena Burke, City Attorney

EXHIBIT A

Chapter 10.36 – ELECTRIC MOTORCYCLES

Sections:

- 10.36.010 Definitions.
- 10.36.020 General Operation Requirements and Penalties.
- 10.36.030 Parent or Guardian Responsible.
- 10.36.040 Traffic Laws Apply.
- 10.36.050 Helmet Required and Penalty.
- 10.36.060 Impoundment.
- 10.36.070 Enforcement Authority

10.36.010 Definitions.

- A. “City property” means any park, parking lot, municipal facility or other real property owned by the city.
- B. “City Street” means every public highway, road or street, as defined in Chapter 46.04 RCW, or part thereof, located within the city.
- C. “Electric motorcycle” means a motorcycle, as defined by RCW 46.04.330, which is powered by an electric motor and:
 - 1. Is not equipped with fully operable pedals capable of propelling it. Foot pegs are not considered pedals; or
 - 2. Has a motor with a power output that exceeds 750 watts; or
 - 3. Has a motor that continues to provide assistance when the vehicle reaches the speed of twenty-eight miles per hour.
- D. “Guardian” means a parent, legal guardian, or adult responsible for the care and supervision of a minor.
- E. “Helmet” means a protective covering for the head consisting of a hard outer shell, padding adjacent to and inside the outer shell, and a neck or chin strap type retention system, with the manufacturer's certification applied in

accordance with 49 C.F.R. Sec. 571.218 indicating that the helmet meets standards established by the United States department of transportation.

- F. “Impound” means removal of a vehicle, electric motorcycle, or similar motorized device to a storage facility either by a law enforcement officer of the Snoqualmie Police Department or by a contractor for towing and storage “City Street” means every public highway, road or street, as defined in Chapter 46.04 RCW, or part thereof, located within the city.
- G. “Minor” means any person under the age of 18.
- H. “Ward” means a minor or incapacitated adult placed under the protection of a guardian.

10.36.020 General Operation Requirements and Penalties.

- A. The following regulations apply to the operation of electric motorcycles in the City of Snoqualmie streets, right-of-way, easements, publicly accessible parking lots, parks, and open space.
 - 1. No person under the age of 16 shall operate an electric motorcycle within the City of Snoqualmie.
 - 2. No person shall operate an electric motorcycle that is not registered with the Washington State Department of Licensing and does not have a valid license plate.
 - 3. To be operated on a public street or road, an electric motorcycle must meet the requirements of RCW 46.61.705.
 - 4. No person shall use or operate an electric motorcycle upon any sidewalk, public trail, city park, or city open space within the city of Snoqualmie.
 - 5. Every electric motorcycle when in use during hours of darkness as defined in RCW 46.37.020 shall display a lighted headlight, lighted stop light, and at least two illuminating rear reflectors.
 - 6. No person shall operate an electric motorcycle while carrying a passenger.
 - 7. No person shall tow any person or thing while operating an electric motorcycle.

- B. Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be deemed to have committed a traffic infraction and shall be subject to the following penalties:
 - 1. First offense: \$250
 - 2. Second offense: \$500
 - 3. Third and subsequent offenses: \$750

10.36.030 Parent or Guardian Responsible.

- A. No person shall cause or knowingly permit his or her child or ward under the age of eighteen years to operate an electric motorcycle in violation of this chapter.
- B. Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be deemed to have committed a non-traffic infraction and shall be subject to the following penalties:
 - 1. First offense: \$250
 - 2. Second offense: \$500
 - 3. Third and subsequent offenses: \$750

10.36.040 Traffic Laws Apply.

Every person riding an electric motorcycle upon a public way shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle pursuant to Chapter 46.61 RCW, except special regulations in RCW 46.61.750 through 46.61.780 shall apply to persons operating a motorized foot scooter or electric motorcycle and except as to those provisions of Chapter 46.61 RCW which by their nature can have no application.

10.36.050 Helmet Required and Penalty.

- A. Any person operating an electric motorcycle on city streets, right-of-way or alleys of the city of Snoqualmie, or on any city property as defined in SMC 10.35.010(D), shall wear a helmet and shall have either the neck or chin strap of the helmet fastened securely while the electric motorcycle is in motion.
- B. Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be deemed to have committed a traffic infraction and shall be subject to a penalty of \$75.00.

10.36.060 Impoundment.

- A. A law enforcement officer may impound any electric motorcycle operated in violation of this chapter.
- B. The Police Department shall, as soon as practicable after impounding any vehicle, obtain the name and address of the registered owner of the impounded vehicle shown by the records of the authority last licensing the vehicle. After obtaining such information, the Police Department, shall provide written notice to such owner that the vehicle has been impounded, or send the written notice via United States Postal Service Certified Mail.
- C. All towing and hauling and storage charges on each vehicle impounded pursuant to this chapter shall be paid by the owner thereof or his or her agent, or other persons redeeming the vehicle. If the vehicle is not redeemed, such charges shall be paid as provided in RCW 46.52.110. In no event shall the city be liable for any such charge, and the owner of each garage approved as a vehicle pound, pursuant to this chapter, by accepting his or her city contract shall be considered as so stipulating.

10.36.070 Enforcement Authority.

The Snoqualmie Police Department is authorized to enforce the provisions of this chapter and may issue civil infractions, impound vehicles, and take other lawful actions necessary to protect public safety and ensure compliance.