



Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Commission

Cravath Lakefront room 2nd floor 312 West
Whitewater Str, Whitewater, WI, 53190 *In Person
and Virtual

Thursday, September 03, 2026 - 4:30 PM

Citizens are welcome (and encouraged) to join our webinar via computer, smart phone, or telephone.
Citizen participation is welcome during topic discussion periods.

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/243499204474681?p=JVQgilHN81YeWi2AYH>

Please note that although every effort will be made to provide for virtual participation, unforeseen technical difficulties may prevent this, in which case the meeting may still proceed as long as there is a quorum. Should you wish to make a comment in this situation, you are welcome to call this number: (262) 473-0108.

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A committee member can choose to remove an item from the agenda or rearrange its order; however, introducing new items to the agenda is not allowed. Any proposed changes require a motion, a second, and approval from the Committee to be implemented. The agenda shall be approved at each meeting even if no changes are being made at that meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items on the Consent Agenda will be approved together unless any committee member requests that an item be removed for individual consideration.

HEARING OF CITIZEN COMMENTS

No formal Committee action will be taken during this meeting although issues raised may become a part of a future agenda. Participants are allotted a three minute speaking period. Specific items listed on the agenda may not be discussed at this time; however, citizens are invited to speak to those specific issues at the time the Committee discusses that particular item.

To make a comment during this period, or during any agenda item: On a computer or handheld device, locate the controls on your computer to raise your hand. You may need to move your mouse to see these controls. On a traditional telephone, dial *6 to unmute your phone and dial *9 to raise your hand.

CONSIDERATIONS / DISCUSSIONS / REPORTS

1. Update and discussion proposed changes to Ordinance 11.40.
2. Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Bicycle Helmet Requirements for Children Under Age 16.

- [3.](#) Discussion and Possible Recommendation Regarding Bicycle, Electric Bicycle, and Electric Scooter Use on Sidewalks.
- [4.](#) Discussion on creating an ordered list of streets for adding bike lanes.
5. Discussion and Possible Recommendation to Include Funding in the 2028 Budget for a Professional Update to the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

A quorum of the Common Council may be present. This notice is given to inform the public that no formal action will be taken at this meeting.

Anyone requiring special arrangements is asked to call the Office of the City Manager / City Clerk (262-473-0102) at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Chapter 11.40 BICYCLES¹

Sections:

11.40.010 Registration required.

It is unlawful for any person to operate a bicycle upon any street within the city unless the bicycle has first been properly registered and tagged as hereinafter provided.

(Prior code § 12.18(1)).

11.40.020 Registration—Form.

Every owner or operator of any bicycle within the city shall, within ten days after acquiring same, file with the chief of police, or duly designated officer, a complete description of such bicycle, upon a blank form to be provided for the purpose which such filing of description shall constitute a registration of such bicycle for the purposes of this chapter. Such registration shall be serially numbered and be kept on file by the chief of police in his office as a public record, and show the make, model and serial number of the bicycle, if any.

(Prior code § 12.18(2)).

11.40.030 Identification tag required—Fee.

(a) Immediately upon the registration of a bicycle in his office, the chief of police, or duly designated officer shall assign to such bicycle an identification tag, serially numbered to correspond with the registration of such bicycle. The owner shall be responsible for affixing the tag to such bicycle and for keeping the tag affixed. The fee for the identification tag shall be three dollars.

(b) All tags issued shall be effective for as long as the applicant retains ownership of the bicycle.

(Ord. 1387 § 1, 1997: Ord. 1040 § 1, 1984: Ord. 664 § 1, 1970: prior code § 12.18(3)).

11.40.040 Inspection.

The chief of police may inspect each bicycle presented to him for registration, and he shall have the authority to register any bicycle found by him to be in unsafe mechanical condition.

(Ord. 846 § 1, 1975: prior code § 12.18(4)).

11.40.050 Registration—Revocation.

The chief of police shall have the right to cancel the registration of and remove the identification tag from any bicycle being operated upon any street in the city in an unsafe manner, or in violation of any state law or in

¹ For the statutory provisions regulating bicycles and play vehicles, see WSA §§ 346.77 to 346.82.

violation of any provisions hereof, or of other local ordinance and such cancellation or registration and removal of tag shall be in addition to other penalties provided hereunder.

(Prior code § 12.18(5)).

11.40.060 Sale or dismantling—Report required.

Within ten days after any bicycle registered hereunder has changed ownership, or been dismantled and taken out of operation, such information shall be reported to the chief of police by the person in whose name the bicycle has been registered. When ownership of any bicycle is changed, the identification tag shall be surrendered to the chief of police and a new identification tag shall be issued as provided in Section 11.40.030.

(Prior code § 12.18(6)).

11.40.070 Obedience to vehicle or traffic regulations and riding regulations.

For the purpose of this chapter bicycles shall be classified as vehicles and are therefore required to obey all rules dealing with vehicular traffic.

In addition to owners or operators obeying all vehicular traffic regulations they shall obey the following:

- (a) No person shall operate at any time a bicycle while under the influence of an intoxicant or controlled substance.
- (c) No person riding upon a bicycle, coaster, wagon, roller skates, sled, toboggan, or any toy vehicle shall attach the same or himself to any other motor vehicle on a city street.
- (d) Any person operating a bicycle shall not ride other than upon or astride a permanent and regular seat attached thereto and no bicycle shall be used to carry more persons at one time than the number for which it is designed and equipped with proper seats.
- (e) No person operating a bicycle shall carry any packages, bundle, or article which prevents the operator from keeping at least one hand upon the handlebars at all times.
- (f) Except when preparing to make a left-hand turn with the proper hand signal, every person operating a bicycle upon a road or street shall ride as near to the right side of the roadway as practicable, exercising due care when passing a standing vehicle or one proceeding in the same direction.
- (g) Persons riding bicycles upon a street or roadway shall ride single file at all times.
- (h) No person may operate a bicycle during the hours of darkness unless such bicycle is equipped with or the operator is wearing a lamp emitting a white light visible from a distance of at least five hundred feet to the front of such bicycle. Such bicycle shall also be equipped with a red reflector that has a diameter of at least two inches of surface area on the rear so mounted and maintained as to be visible from all distances from fifty to five hundred feet to the rear when directly in front of lawful upper beams of head lamps on a motor vehicle. A lamp emitting a red light visible from a distance of five hundred feet to the rear may be used in addition but not in lieu of the red reflector.
- (i) Racing on any street is prohibited.
- (j) No person shall operate a bicycle unless it is equipped with a brake which will enable the operator to make the braked wheels skid on dry, level, clean pavement and with a bell or other device capable of giving a signal audible for a distance of at least one hundred feet, but a bicycle shall not be equipped with nor shall any person use upon a bicycle any siren or whistle.
- (k) Riding bicycles on sidewalks is prohibited in the central business district.

(Ord. 846 § 2, 1975: prior code § 12.18(7) and (8)).

11.40.090 Operation without registration or in reckless manner prohibited.

Any person who operates any bicycle not properly registered or carrying a proper identification tag is required herein, upon any street in the city, or who operates such bicycle in an unsafe manner, or in violation of any state law or in violation of any of the provisions of this chapter or other local ordinances shall upon conviction thereof be subject to the penalty provided in Section 11.40.100.

(Prior code § 12.18(9)).

11.40.100 Penalty for violations.

Any person who violates any provisions of this chapter shall, upon conviction thereof, forfeit not less than five dollars nor more than twenty-five dollars, together with the costs of the action and in default of the payment of such forfeiture and costs, shall be imprisoned in the county jail of the proper county until such forfeiture and costs are paid or for a term not to exceed five days.

(Ord. 983 § 42(part), 1982).

11.40.110 Parent or guardian responsibility.

- (a) No parent or guardian of any child under the age of eighteen years shall authorize or knowingly permit such child to violate any of the provisions of this chapter.
- (b) Any person who violates subsection (a) of this section shall pay a forfeiture of not less than five dollars nor more than twenty-five dollars and the costs of prosecution or in default in payment thereof be imprisoned in the county jail of the proper county for no more than five days.
- (c) If any child under the age of eighteen years has had his bicycle operating privileges in the city suspended and if such child rides a bicycle registered to him or to his parent or guardian during such period of suspension, the parent or guardian shall be deemed to have violated this section.

(Ord. 983 § 42(part), 1982; Ord. 678 § 2, 1970: prior code § 12.18(11)).

City of Whitewater – Proposed Ordinance Update (Corrected & Verified)

11.40.070 – Obedience to Vehicle or Traffic Regulations and Riding Regulations

For the purpose of this chapter, bicycles, electric bicycles (E-bikes), electric scooters, and electric personal assistive mobility devices (EPAMDs) shall obey all rules dealing with vehicular traffic as set forth in Wisconsin Statutes Chapters 340 through 348, which are hereby adopted by reference, together with all future amendments. In addition to owners or operators obeying all vehicular traffic regulations, they shall obey the following:

(a) Definitions and Classification of Devices.

- 1. Bicycle: As defined in Wis. Stat. § 340.01(5).
- 2. Electric Bicycle (E-bike): As defined in Wis. Stat. § 340.01(15ph).
- 3. Electric Scooter: As defined in Wis. Stat. § 340.01(15ps).
- 4. Electric Personal Assistive Mobility Device (EPAMD): As defined in Wis. Stat. § 340.01(15pm).
- All such devices are subject to rights and duties in Wis. Stat. §§ 346.80–346.806 and §§ 346.803–346.804.

(b) Classification and Age Restrictions for Electric Bicycles.

- Electric bicycles are classified and regulated per Wis. Stat. § 346.806:
- Class 1: Pedal-assist, ceases assistance at 20 mph.
- Class 2: Throttle-assist, ceases assistance at 20 mph.
- Class 3: Pedal-assist, ceases assistance at 28 mph.
- No person under 16 years of age may operate a Class 3 electric bicycle. (§ 346.806(3)(a))
- All operators of Class 3 electric bicycles shall wear a protective helmet. (§ 346.806(3)(b))

(c) Protective Helmets for Minors.

- Any person under sixteen (16) years of age operating or riding upon a bicycle, electric bicycle, electric scooter, skateboard, scooter, roller skates, in-line skates, or similar play vehicle upon any public roadway, public sidewalk, public bicycle path, park trail, or other public right-of-way within the City shall wear a properly fitted and fastened protective helmet.
- Such helmet shall meet or exceed the impact standards for protective bicycle helmets established by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), the Snell Memorial Foundation, the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), or any successor national safety standard.
- The parent or legal guardian of any person under sixteen (16) years of age shall not knowingly permit such person to operate or ride upon any device described in this subsection unless the required helmet is properly worn.
- Failure to wear a helmet as required under this subsection shall constitute a municipal ordinance violation subject to enforcement by warning, citation, or other remedial action as determined appropriate by the enforcing officer.

(d) Operation of Electric Scooters.

- Operators have the same rights and duties as bicyclists (§ 346.803(1)).
- Scooters may not exceed 15 mph (§ 346.94(18s)(a)).

- Scooters may not operate on roadways posted over 25 mph, except to cross or briefly travel where necessary (§ 346.94(18s)(a)2).
- No license, registration, or insurance is required (§ 340.01(15ps)).
- Local authorities may regulate or prohibit scooter use on sidewalks or streets (§ 346.94(18s)(b)).

(e) Operation of EPAMDs (Segways).

- Operators have the same rights and duties as pedestrians when on sidewalks or crosswalks and the same rights and duties as bicyclists when on roadways (§ 346.804(1)).

- Local authorities may restrict EPAMD operation on sidewalks or roads for safety (§ 346.804(2)).

(f) Attaching to Motor Vehicles.

- No person riding upon a bicycle, electric bicycle, electric scooter, coaster, wagon, roller skates, sled, or toboggan shall attach to any motor vehicle.

(g) Seating and Passenger Limits.

- Operators shall ride only upon or astride a permanent and regular seat where applicable, and shall not carry more persons than the device is designed for.

(h) Carrying Objects.

- No person shall carry any package, bundle, or article that prevents keeping at least one hand upon the handlebars.

(i) Lane Position.

- Operators shall ride as near to the right side of the roadway as practicable and exercise due care when passing standing or moving vehicles (§ 346.80(2)(a)–(c)).

(j) Hand and Turn Signals.

- When turning or stopping, operators shall give the required signal continuously during not less than the last 100 feet traveled before turning or stopping, except that a bicyclist is not required to signal continuously if the hand is needed to control the bicycle (§ 346.34(1)(b)).
- Signals may be given by hand and arm or by signal lamp; when given by hand and arm, the method shall conform to § 346.35.

(k) Riding Two Abreast.

- Operators may ride two abreast if such operation does not impede the normal and reasonable movement of traffic (§ 346.80(3)(a)).

(l) Nighttime Equipment (Lamps & Reflectors).

- During hours of darkness, a bicycle operator (or the bicycle) must display a white front lamp visible from at least 500 feet (§ 347.489(1)).
- A bicycle, electric scooter, or EPAMD shall be equipped with a rear red reflector having at least 2 square inches of surface area, or for scooters/EPAMDs, a strip of red reflective tape of at least 2 square inches; a red rear lamp visible from 500 feet may be used in addition (§ 347.489(1)).

(m) Brakes.

- No person may operate a bicycle, electric scooter, or EPAMD upon a highway, bicycle lane, bicycle way, or sidewalk unless it is equipped with a brake in good working condition adequate to control movement and stop when necessary (§ 347.489(2)).

(n) Safe Passing by Motor Vehicles.

- The operator of a motor vehicle overtaking a bicycle, electric bicycle, or electric scooter proceeding in the same direction shall exercise due care, leaving a safe distance of not less than three feet until safely past (§ 346.075(1)).

(o) Racing.

- Racing on any street is prohibited unless authorized by permit.

(p) Sidewalk Operation.

- Bicycles may be operated on sidewalks only where permitted by local ordinance; bicyclists must yield to pedestrians and give an audible signal when passing (§§ 346.94(1), 346.804).
- Electric scooters and EPAMDs may be operated on sidewalks unless restricted by statute or local ordinance; operators must yield to pedestrians and give an audible signal when passing (§§ 346.805, 346.94(18s)).

(q) Incorporation by Reference.

- All applicable provisions of Wis. Stats. Chapters 340–348 governing these devices are incorporated by reference, including any future amendments.

(r) Safe and Appropriate Speed.

- No person shall operate a bicycle, electric bicycle, electric scooter, or electric personal assistive mobility device (EPAMD) at a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions then existing, having regard for actual and potential hazards, pedestrian traffic, surface conditions, visibility, weather, and the character of the roadway, sidewalk, bicycle lane, trail, or shared-use path being traveled.
- Operators shall reduce speed and exercise due care when approaching or passing pedestrians, children, animals, intersections, congested areas, or other users of public ways.
- No person shall operate a bicycle, electric bicycle, electric scooter, or EPAMD:
- Upon a sidewalk at a speed greater than ten (10) miles per hour;
- Upon a shared-use path or recreational trail at a speed greater than fifteen (15) miles per hour unless otherwise posted;
- In any congested pedestrian area at a speed greater than is safe for existing conditions.
- The City may establish and post alternative speed limits for specific trails, sidewalks, parks, or shared-use facilities where warranted for public safety.



Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Commission Meeting Agenda Item

Meeting Date:	September 3, 2026
Agenda Item:	Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Bicycle Helmet Requirements for Children Under Age 16.
Staff Contact (name, email, phone):	Kevin Boehm, kboehm@whitewater-wi.gov , 262-473-0122

BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what when, where, why)

A member of the Common Council requested that the City consider the creation of an ordinance requiring children under the age of sixteen (16) to wear a protective helmet while operating or riding bicycles, electric bicycles, electric scooters, skateboards, scooters, roller skates, in-line skates, and similar recreational devices within the City of Whitewater. The proposed requirement was presented to the Park and Recreation Advisory Board at its August 19, 2026 meeting for initial review and discussion.

At its August 19, 2026 meeting, the Park and Recreation Advisory Board discussed the proposed helmet requirement and recommended that the matter be forwarded to the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Commission. The Board recommended requiring individuals under the age of sixteen (16) to wear a helmet while operating or riding electric bicycles, electric scooters, and similar electric or motorized recreational devices.

The original proposal contemplated applying the requirement on public roadways, sidewalks, bicycle paths, park trails, and other public rights-of-way within the City. Helmets would be required to be properly fitted and fastened and meet recognized national safety standards.

The Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Commission is being asked to review the proposed helmet requirement and the recommendation of the Park and Recreation Advisory Board and make a recommendation to the Common Council regarding whether the City should establish a helmet requirement for individuals under the age of sixteen (16), including which devices should be subject to the requirement.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(Dates, committees, action taken)

August 19, 2026 – Park and Recreation Advisory Board:

The Board reviewed and discussed the proposed helmet requirement for individuals under age sixteen (16). The Board recommended forwarding the matter to the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Commission with a recommendation to require helmets for individuals under age sixteen (16) while operating or riding electric bicycles, electric scooters, and similar electric or motorized recreational devices.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

(If none, state N/A)

None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Commission review the proposed helmet requirement and the recommendation of the Park and Recreation Advisory Board and make a recommendation to the Common Council regarding whether individuals under the age of sixteen (16)

should be required to wear a helmet while operating or riding electric bicycles, electric scooters, and similar electric or motorized recreational devices within the City of Whitewater.

If the Commission recommends moving forward, staff further recommends that the proposed ordinance language be reviewed by the City Attorney and Police Department prior to consideration by the Common Council.

ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED

(If none, state N/A)



Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Commission Meeting Agenda Item

Meeting Date:	September 3, 2026
Agenda Item:	Discussion and Possible Recommendation Regarding Bicycle, Electric Bicycle, and Electric Scooter Use on Sidewalks.
Staff Contact (name, email, phone):	Kevin Boehm, kboehm@whitewater-wi.gov , 262-473-0122

BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what when, where, why)

As part of the City Attorney's review of potential ordinance changes related to bicycles, electric bicycles, electric scooters, and similar devices, clarification has been requested regarding whether the City wishes to place additional restrictions on the operation of these devices on sidewalks.

The City's current bicycle ordinance prohibits riding bicycles on sidewalks within the Central Business District. No previous discussion or recommendation has occurred regarding expanding this restriction to other areas of the City or applying sidewalk restrictions specifically to electric bicycles, electric scooters, or similar devices.

The Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Commission is being asked to discuss whether the existing sidewalk restriction should remain unchanged or whether additional restrictions should be incorporated into the proposed ordinance revisions. This may include consideration of which devices should be regulated, whether restrictions should apply citywide or only in designated areas, and whether any exceptions should be provided.

The Commission's recommendation will provide direction to the City Attorney in preparing proposed ordinance language for future consideration by the Common Council.

PREVIOUS ACTIONS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(Dates, committees, action taken)

None

FINANCIAL IMPACT

(If none, state N/A)

None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff has no specific recommendation and is seeking direction from the Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Commission regarding whether additional restrictions should be placed on the operation of bicycles, electric bicycles, electric scooters, and similar devices on sidewalks within the City.

The Commission's recommendation will be provided to the City Attorney for consideration in drafting proposed ordinance revisions for future consideration by the Common Council.

ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED

(If none, state N/A)



Pedestrian and Bicycle Commission Meeting Agenda Item

Meeting Date:	September 3, 2026
Agenda Item:	Discussion on creating an ordered list of streets for adding bike lanes.
Staff Contact (name, email, phone):	Kevin Boehm, kboehm@whitewater-wi.gov , 262-473-0122

BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what when, where, why)

Commission member Steven Sahyun has requested discussion regarding the development of an ordered list of streets for potential future bicycle lane implementation based on connectivity, desirability, and the feasibility of accommodating bike lanes where parking restrictions may be required.

Mr. Sahyun proposed the following corridors for consideration:

1. N. Tratt Street from Main Street to Foxglove Road (or Starin Road)
2. Fremont Street from Center Street to Lakefront
3. Elizabeth Street from Main Street (or Highland Street) to Whitewater High School
4. E. Bluff Road from Elkhorn Road to Howard Road
5. E. Main Street from Newcomb Street to Bluff Road
6. Walworth Avenue from Indian Mound Parkway to Janesville Street
7. Indian Mound Parkway from Main Street to Walworth Avenue
8. W. Main Street from Prairie Street to US Highway 12 (or Pearson Lane)

Existing Plan Guidance

The City's adopted Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan already identifies recommended bicycle lane corridors, project prioritization criteria, and implementation procedures for future bicycle and pedestrian improvements.

Several corridors identified by Mr. Sahyun are already included within the recommended bicycle network, including E. Bluff Road, E. Main Street, Walworth Avenue, Indian Mound Parkway, portions of N. Tratt Street, Fremont Street, and Elizabeth Street.

While the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan identifies W. Main Street as a recommended bicycle lane corridor between Indian Mound Parkway and S. Franklin Street, the specific segment identified in Item #8, from Prairie Street to US Highway 12 (or Pearson Lane), does not appear to be specifically identified as a recommended bicycle lane project within the adopted plan.

Project Prioritization

Chapter 7 of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan (pages 55-60) establishes the City's process for evaluating and prioritizing bicycle and pedestrian projects. The plan recommends considering factors such as:

- System connectivity
- Safety and comfort
- Access to community destinations
- Roadway function
- Funding opportunities

- Community support
- Coordination with roadway projects

The plan further recommends periodically revisiting project priorities as conditions, funding opportunities, and community needs change.

Whitewater Comprehensive Plan Update

The City is currently working with **RDG Planning & Design** on an update to the Whitewater Comprehensive Plan. As part of that planning process, draft materials have been developed identifying potential priority trail connections, bicycle lanes, and other bicycle and pedestrian improvements for consideration.

These materials may provide additional information for the Commission as it discusses future bicycle facility priorities and potential connections within the community.

It is important to note that these maps and recommendations are preliminary planning materials. They are DRAFT concepts and have not been formally approved or adopted by the City and should not be interpreted as final recommendations or commitments to construct any identified improvement.

The draft mapping materials can be viewed through the project's interactive mapping site:

<https://experience.arcgis.com/template/caf27a7fc32840da91d65b65328536b4>

PREVIOUS ACTIONS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

(Dates, committees, action taken)

N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT

(If none, state N/A)

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Commission continue to utilize the adopted Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan as the current guiding document for bicycle facility planning and prioritization within the City of Whitewater. The Commission should also consider the preliminary bicycle and trail concepts being developed through the ongoing Comprehensive Plan update as potential future planning considerations, recognizing that these concepts remain in draft form and have not been formally adopted by the City.

Should the Commission wish to pursue the addition or prioritization of bicycle lanes or other bicycle infrastructure, staff recommends forwarding those recommendations to the Public Works Board for consideration as part of future roadway planning, engineering evaluation, and capital improvement discussions.

ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED

(If none, state N/A)

