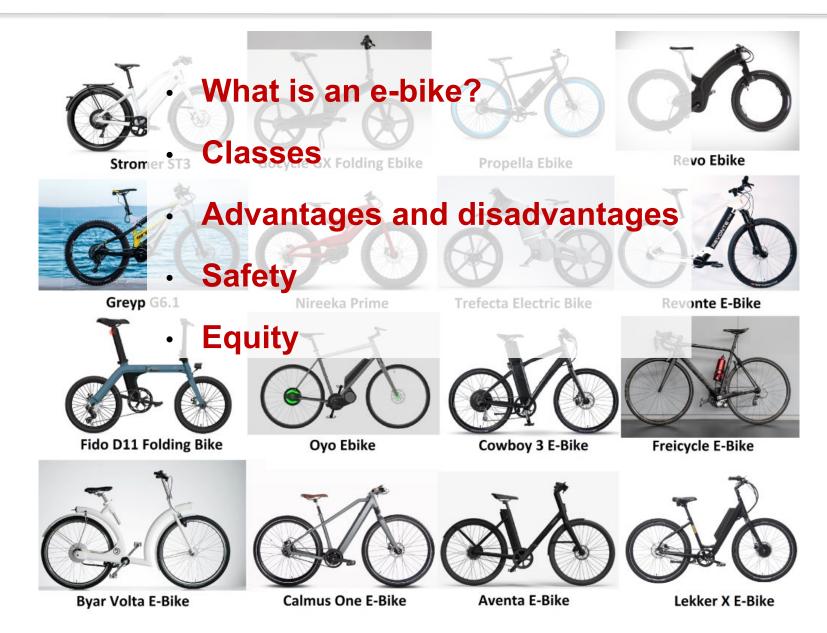


Thursday, December 14 12 p.m. EST



### E-Bikes 101



# What is an E-Bike, legally?

## Title 39:4-14.16 Low-speed electric bicycle:

"A two or three-wheeled vehicle with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of less than 750 watts, whose maximum speed on a paved level surface, when powered solely by a motor, while operated by a person weighing 170 pounds, is less than 20 miles per hour"



## What is an E-Bike, actually?

- A bicycle that makes pedaling easier
  - Pedal assist
  - Throttle
- Battery-powered
  - Plugs into a wall outlet directly on bike
  - Charge lasts 50 miles on average
  - 4-5 hours for a complete charge
  - 2 hours can charge from 0-50% or more



- Maintenance costs about \$400 per year for daily use:
  - \$30/year to charge battery
  - Higher wear and tear on brakes and tires
  - \$100 for parts
  - \$150 for service

### Classes

### Class 1

- Low-speed electric bicycle
- Pedal assist only
- Pedal assist stops at 20mph

### Class 2

- Low-speed electric bicycle
- Motor with throttle up to 20mph
- Can use throttle without pedaling

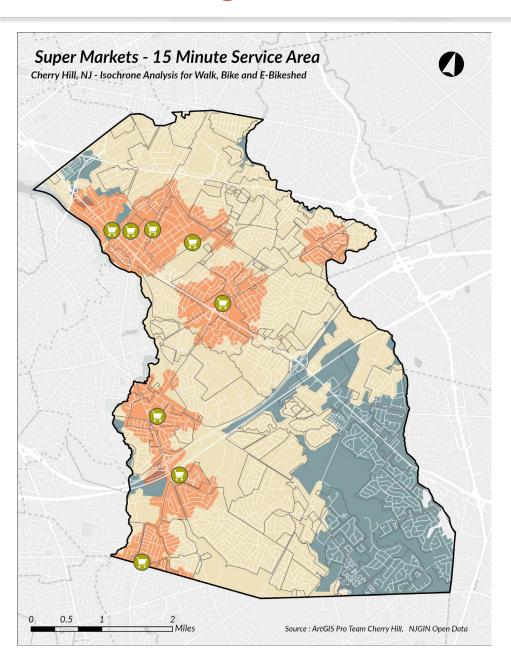
- Subject to traditional bicycle laws
- Helmet required only if 17 years or less
- No license or registration
- Can take on transit
- Can park on sidewalk

### Class 3

- Motorized bicycle or moped
- 15 year or older
- Requires license
- Requires helmet
- Can still use bike lanes or bike routes

NJMVC classifies Class 3 e-bikes as "Specialty Vehicles," therefore not a bicycle

## **Advantages and Disadvantages**



- Can ride longer distances with less effort
- Hills are much easier
- Cheaper than cars and motorcycles
- Higher cost than regular bicycle
- Heavy, usually over 50lbs
- Slightly higher maintenance





# New Jersey's E-Bike & E-Scooter Law

VEHICLE TYPES	PROPULSION METHOD	POWER SOURCE	MAX ASSISTED SPEED (MPH)	LICENSE & REGISTRATION	HELMET	PARK ON THE SIDEWALK?	TAKE ON TRANSIT?
LOW-SPEED ELECTRIC SCOOTER	Kickstart and throttle	Electric	19mph	No	Under 17 years old	If not blocking access	Yes*
ELECTRIC BICYCLE	Pedal and/or throttle	Electric (<750W)	20mph	No	Under 17 years old	If not blocking access	Yes*
MOTORIZED BICYCLE	Pedal and throttle	Gas or Electric (<50cc/<1.5BHP)	28mph	Required	Required	No	No

http://njbikeped.org/new-law-legalized-e-bikes-and-e-scooters-in-new-jersey/

during peak travel times. Bus racks have limited availability and may not fit all bikes.

Low-speed e-bikes and e-scooters are regulated like

\* Restrictions may vary by agency. PATH and NJT restrict non-collapsible vehicles

### E-mobility devices make it easier to:

- Save on gas, parking, and rideshare costs.
- Access destinations without needing to walk or drive.
- Reduce carbon emissions.
- Make "first-mile" and "last-mile" connections for bus and train trips.
- Climb hills and keep up with traffic without getting sweaty.
- Help people with limitations due to age, physical fitness levels, or disabilities.

## Low-speed e-bikes and e-scooters are regulated like bicycles. Drivers of low-speed e-bikes and e-scooters:

- Must ride in the same direction as traffic and obey all traffic lights, signs, and signals.
- Are advised to wear helmets to minimize potential head injury. Helmets are required in NJ for youth under age 17.
- Must park devices without blocking pedestrian and/or wheelchair access.
- Should not ride on sidewalks. Off-road trails generally do not allow motorized bicycles, but may allow e-bikes and e-scooters.
   Regulations vary by municipality and county. Check all local ordinances and policies. Ride slowly in areas with pedestrians.

For more information, visit the NJ Bicycle and Pedestrian Resource Center at <u>njbikeped.org</u> or the NJ Safe Routes Resource Center at <u>saferoutesnj.org</u>. 01.13.22



Source: <a href="https://njbikeped.org/micromobility/">https://njbikeped.org/micromobility/</a>

# **Safety**

- Longer distances > larger roads
- Inadequate infrastructure
- Conflicts with other road users
- Manufacturer's guide for charging
- Quick acceleration
- Helmets
- Existing local legislation in NJ

#### **Highway Restrictions**

Bicycle traffic is restricted by regulations on the following roads. These are the only roadways for which access restrictions for bicycle traffic have been officially publicized.

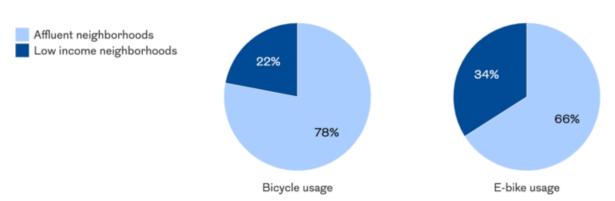
Roadway	<u>Location</u>
Garden State Parkway	Entire length
New Jersey Turnpike	Entire length
Atlantic City Expressway	Entire length
Roule 1 Freeway	Trenton, Mercer County
Roule 18 Freeway	Wall, Ocean County, Neptune City, Tinton Falls, Colts Neck, Freehold, and Marlboro, Monmouth County, Old Bridge, Middlesex County
Route 29 Freeway	Trenton, Mercer County
Route 52	Somers Point, Atlantic County, Ocean City, Cape May County
Roule 208 Freeway	Fair Lawn, Glen Rock, Franklin Lakes Wycoff and Oakland, Bergen County, Hawthorne Borough, Passaic County
Route 42 Freeway	Washington Township and Deptford Gloucester County, Runnemede, Gloucester Township and Bellmawr, Camden County
Interstates	Various locations

# **Equity Concerns**

- Policing bicyclists of color <u>Biking While Black</u>
- Bicycle infrastructure
- Location of high volume and/or dangerous roads
- Upfront cost
- Locating bikeshare programs

### E-bikes Increase Indego Bikeshare Participation

A study for GeoJournal in 2019 found that the introduction of e-bikes into Indego's bikeshare fleet caused increased use in low-income areas.



# **Speakers**



John MacArthur, Sustainable Transportation Program Manager Portland State University



Luke Jones, Ph.D., Professor of Economics Valdosta State University



Ash Lovell, Ph.D., Electric Bicycle Policy and Campaign Director People for Bikes