

R9 AC DISCUSS/TAKE ACTION – POTENTIAL ORDINANCE AMENDMENT  
AUTHORIZING ADULTS RIDING WITH CHILDREN TO OPERATE ELECTRIC  
BICYCLES, UNDER SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES AND CONDITIONS, IN  
CERTAIN, OTHERWISE RESTRICTED AREAS WITHIN THE CITY.

Applicable Area:

# MIAMI BEACH

## COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission  
FROM: Commissioner Laura Dominguez  
DATE: May 21, 2025  
TITLE: DISCUSS/TAKE ACTION – POTENTIAL ORDINANCE AMENDMENT AUTHORIZING ADULTS RIDING WITH CHILDREN TO OPERATE ELECTRIC BICYCLES, UNDER SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES AND CONDITIONS, IN CERTAIN, OTHERWISE RESTRICTED AREAS WITHIN THE CITY.

### RECOMMENDATION

### BACKGROUND/HISTORY

### ANALYSIS

As we continue to prioritize the safety, mobility, and livability of our City, I'd like to discuss a possible amendment to our existing Ordinance governing the use of motorized means of transportation in various areas of the City (as codified in Section 70-67 of the City Code) to permit the use of electric bicycles on specific pathways, namely -- the Beachwalk, the Lummus Park Promenade (aka the Serpentine Walkway), the Marina Baywalk, the South Pointe Park Cutwalk, and the interior pathways within South Pointe Park and Collins Park – under specific circumstances and conditions. The proposed amendment would create a limited exception to allow adults aged 18 and older, who are supervising or accompanying child(ren) 16 years of age or younger, to ride electric bicycles—either together on the same electric bicycle or on separate ones — within these currently restricted areas.

It has been expressed to me that using electric bicycles is an efficient and manageable way to travel with children—whether for school drop-offs, weekend outings, or simply moving through the City without the use of a car. Therefore, by permitting electric bicycle utilization in these areas under specific conditions including -- a 10-mph maximum speed limit; the adult and child(ren) must remain in close proximity so as not to separate the child(ren) from the adult's supervision; the operator must yield the right of way to pedestrians at all times; and when overtaking a pedestrian the operator must give an audible warning by bell, horn, or voice prior to passing -- our public spaces may be more accessible to families while continuing to uphold safety and order.

This would not be a blanket allowance for electric bicycles, but rather, a carefully crafted exception that would support responsible use. Moreover, public education, outreach, and enforcement would all play key roles in ensuring successful implementation, compliance, and minimizing conflicts with pedestrians and other users of these public pathways. As such, I would like to discuss this potential Ordinance amendment with my colleagues and City staff.

### FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

**Does this Ordinance require a Business Impact Estimate?**  
(FOR ORDINANCES ONLY)

If applicable, the Business Impact Estimate (BIE) was published on:  
See BIE at: <https://www.miamibeachfl.gov/city-hall/city-clerk/meeting-notices/>

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**CONCLUSION**

**Applicable Area**

Citywide

**Is this a "Residents Right to Know" item, pursuant to City Code Section 2-17?**

No

**Is this item related to a G.O. Bond Project?**

No

**Was this Agenda Item initially requested by a lobbyist which, as defined in Code Sec. 2-481, includes a principal engaged in lobbying?** No

If so, specify the name of lobbyist(s) and principal(s):

**Department**

Office of Commissioner Laura Dominguez

**Sponsor(s)**

Commissioner Laura Dominguez

**Co-sponsor(s)**

**Condensed Title**

Discuss/Action, Authorize Electric Bicycles in Certain Areas under Specific Circumstances/ Conditions. (LD)

**Previous Action (For City Clerk Use Only)**