

VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE
Report for the Village Council Meeting
7/1/2025

SUBJECT:	SUBMITTED BY:
Micromobility Discussion	Dave Fieldman Village Manager

SYNOPSIS

Discussion of regulations regarding Micromobility Devices

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

Updating Village ordinances and regulations to align with the Guiding DG Active Transportation Plan recommendations is a Priority Action Item in the 2023-25 Long Range Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT

N/A

RECOMMENDATION

No recommendation. Discussion and feedback is requested from Council prior to drafting an ordinance for review.

BACKGROUND

The draft Guiding DG Comprehensive Plan and Guiding DG Active Transportation Plan (ATP) both reference the management of micromobility devices through regulations and infrastructure. The Active Transportation Plan lists a specific strategy to establish regulations for micromobility devices, particularly e-bikes and e-scooters. The presentation will provide an overview of the direction included in the ATP and draft Comprehensive Plan, highlight which devices would be subject to regulation, review neighboring jurisdictions' regulations, and outline considerations for each device type. Village Council is requested to provide feedback and generally discuss considerations for the proposed ordinance.

ATTACHMENTS

Presentation

Micromobility Device Discussion

July 1, 2025



Agenda

- What do the Guiding DG Plans suggest?
- What are the applicable devices?
- How are other communities regulating these devices?
- What should be considered when regulating these devices?



What do the Guiding DG plans suggest?



Guiding DG Guidelines: Comprehensive Plan (draft)

Vision Excerpt:

“There will be a high quality, aesthetically pleasing, safe and accessible transportation system for all users with priority given to pedestrians, bicycles, and micromobility devices. Neighborhoods, commercial corridors, and local amenities will be connected through an extensive mobility network, providing the opportunity to comfortably walk, bike, drive, or take public transportation.”



Guiding DG Guidelines: Comprehensive Plan (draft)

- Recommendations:
 - *“Operate and maintain thoroughfares with all users in mind, including users of micromobility devices, public transportation vehicles, and pedestrians.”*
 - Expand parking and charging options for devices near downtown, transit stations, commercial areas, and park and ride areas



Guiding DG Guidelines: Active Transportation Plan

- **Strategy 1.1.1:**
Develop a palette of implementable active transportation facilities

Table 1, Facility Types

	Pedestrian Use	Cyclist Use	Micromobility Use	Off-Street	On-Street (at-grade)	Thoroughfare AADT and Speed	Width	Buffer Width	Protection Types	Striping Types	Pavement Types
Sidewalks	X	X	X	X		Faster, Mod., Slower	5-6 ft	None	Landscape Buffered Curb	Crosswalks	Brushed Concrete
Sharrow Routes		X	X		X	Slower	10-15 ft	None	None	Sharrow markings	Asphalt, Brushed Concrete
Bike Lane		X	X		X	Slower	4-8 ft	None	None	Bicycle Pavement Markings, Bicycle Crossings, Intersection Bike Boxes	Asphalt, Brushed Concrete
Shared-Use Path	X	X	X	X		Faster, Mod., Slower	8-10 ft	None	Landscape Buffered Curb	Bicycle Pavement Markings, Bicycle Crossings, Intersection Bike Boxes, Crosswalks	Asphalt
One-Way Shared-Use Path	X	X	X	X		Faster, Mod., Slower	8 ft	None	Landscape Buffered Curb	Directional Arrows, Bicycle Pavement Markings, Fastlane delineation, Bicycle Crossings, Intersection Bike Boxes, Crosswalks	Asphalt
Recreational Trail	X	X	X	X		None	10-15 ft	None	Landscape Buffered Curb	Bicycle Pavement Markings, Fastlane delineation, Crosswalks	Asphalt, Decomposed Granite



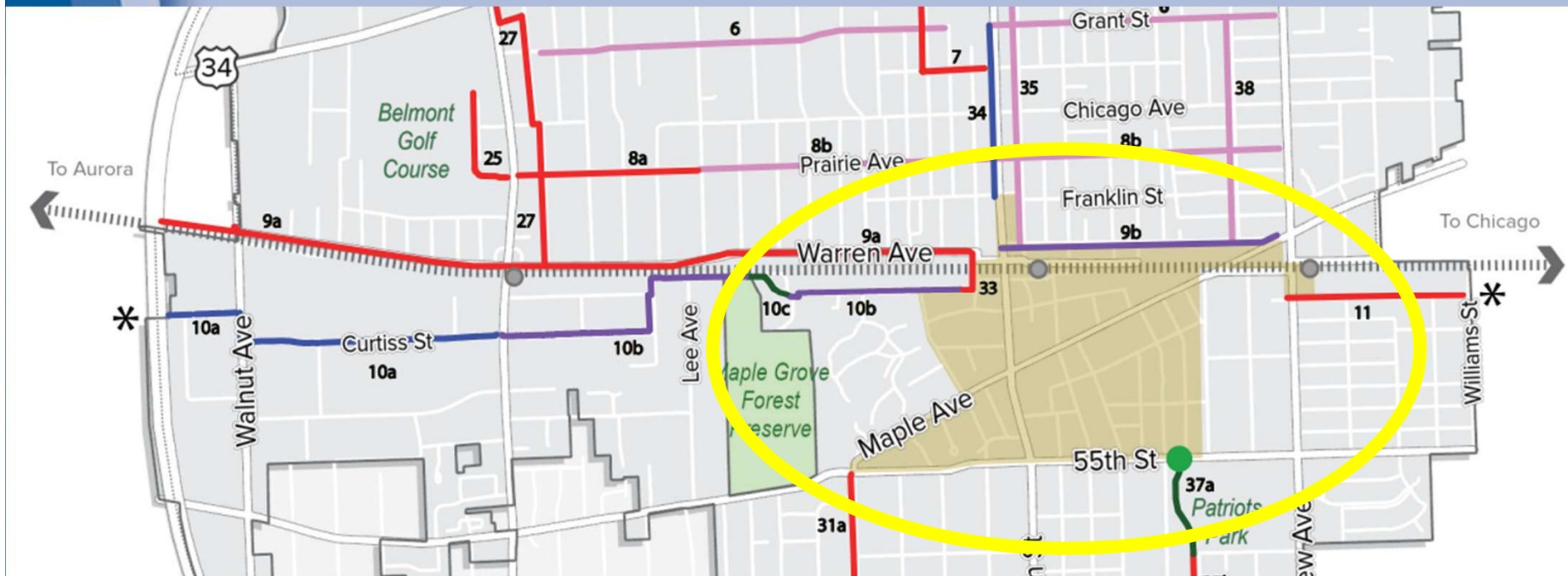
Guiding DG Guidelines: Active Transportation Plan

- **Strategy 1.4.5:** *Establish enforceable regulations for electric micromobility devices (E-bikes and E-Scooters)*



Guiding DG Guidelines: Active Transportation Plan

- **Strategy 1.3.1:** *Designate the Village's Downtown, Fairview and connection area, as an Active Transportation Friendly District*



What are the applicable devices?



Devices include:

- Bicycles and other human-powered devices

Regulated by State law and Village ordinance



Devices include:

- **Low-speed Electric Bicycles**

Regulated by State law

- **Low-speed Electric Scooters**

Prohibited by State law unless authorized by municipal ordinance



Examples of Other Devices

Not regulated by State law - to be defined in future ordinance

- One Wheel Device
- Segway Standing Scooter
- Hoverboard



Not Applicable Devices

Not regulated - to be addressed in future ordinance



Prohibited Devices

Prohibited by State law on public lands

- Off-Highway Motorcycles
(Gas or Electric)
- Mini-Motorbikes
(Gas or Electric)

EXAMPLES OF COMMON NON-HIGHWAY MOTORCYCLES



How are other
communities
regulating these
devices?



Regulations by Facility and Device Type

Device Type	Street (including on-street bike lanes)				Shared-use Paths				Sidewalks			
	Glen Ellyn	Hinsdale	Lombard	Burr Ridge	Glen Ellyn	Hinsdale	Lombard	Burr Ridge	Glen Ellyn	Hinsdale	Lombard	Burr Ridge
Bikes and human-powered devices	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y*	Y*	Y*	N
E-bikes	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y*	N	N	N
Low speed e-scooter	Y	Y	Y*	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y*	Y*	Y*	N
Other micromobility devices	Y	N	-	N	Y	N	-	N	Y*	N	-	N

*Except where prohibited

-Not defined



What should be
considered when
regulating these
devices?



Considerations

Bike and Human Powered Devices

- Currently regulated by State law and Village ordinance.
- Allowed on streets and sidewalks in the Village, except where prohibited in business zoning districts with existing signage (downtown business district).
- Existing regulations are long standing and work well.



Regulations by Facility and Device Type

Device Type	Street (including on-street bike lanes)					Shared-use Paths					Sidewalks				
	Glen Ellyn	Hinsdale	Lombard	Burr Ridge	DG	Glen Ellyn	Hinsdale	Lombard	Burr Ridge	DG	Glen Ellyn	Hinsdale	Lombard	Burr Ridge	DG
Bikes and human-powered devices	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y*	Y*	N	
E-bikes	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	N	Y	N		Y*	N	N	N	
Low speed e-scooter	Y	Y	Y*	N		Y	Y	Y	N		Y*	Y*	N	N	
Other micromobility devices	Y	N	-	N		Y	N	-	N		Y*	N	-	N	

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Considerations

Low-Speed Electric Bicycles

- Currently regulated by State law
 - Designated as Class 1, 2, & 3
 - Operation on sidewalks is prohibited
 - Motor cannot exceed 750w - must have pedals
 - Class 3 operation - 16 years of age or older
- Existing State regulations are working well.
- Challenges may include speeds of e-bikes as it relates to nearby pedestrians.



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E-bikes	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	N	Y	N		Y*	N	N	N	
Low speed e-scooter	Y	Y	Y*	N		Y	Y	Y	N		Y*	Y*	N	N	
Other micromobility devices	Y	N	-	N		Y	N	-	N		Y*	N	-	N	

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Considerations

Low-Speed Electric Scooters

- Prohibited by State law (August 2024)
- Allowed only if authorized by a municipality
 - Current State law requires:
 - No operation where speed limits exceed 35 mph
 - Must be 18 or older
 - One rider per device
 - Parked like bicycles
 - Front and rear lamps required
 - Brakes required
 - No sirens
 - No carrying packages
 - No operation under the influence of drugs and alcohol



Considerations

Low-Speed Electric Scooters

- Pros:
 - Increases mobility throughout the Village
 - Commuter friendly
 - Reduces vehicle usage
 - Meets the vision outlined in Guiding DG
- Cons:
 - Potential for increased risk and safety concerns
 - Potential for increase in devices after authorization



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E-bikes	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	N	Y	N		Y*	N	N	N	
Low speed e-scooter	Y	Y	Y*	N		Y	Y	Y	N		Y*	Y*	N	N	
Other micromobility devices	Y	N	-	N		Y	N	-	N		Y*	N	-	N	

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Considerations

Other Micromobility Devices

- Currently not regulated or defined by State law or Village ordinance
 - Devices and device types are constantly evolving
 - Varying opinions on expectations and usage
 - Goal to generally define and regulate by ordinance



Considerations

Other Micromobility Devices

- Pros:
 - Increases mobility throughout the Village
 - Commuter friendly
 - Reduces vehicle usage
 - Meets the vision outlined in Guiding DG
- Cons:
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E-bikes	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	N	Y	N		Y*	N	N	N	
Low speed e-scooter	Y	Y	Y*	N		Y	Y	Y	N		Y*	Y*	N	N	
Other micromobility devices	Y	N	-	N		Y	N	-	N		Y*	N	-	N	

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Bikes and human-powered devices	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y		Y*	Y*	Y*	N	
E-bikes	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	N	Y	N		Y*	N	N	N	
Low speed e-scooter	Y	Y	Y*	N		Y	Y	Y	N		Y*	Y*	N	N	
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Micromobility Device Discussion

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