



'Bird' and 'Lime' Scooters Frequently Asked Questions

What are 'Bird' and 'Lime' scooters?

'Bird' and 'Lime' are two companies that offer electric scooters via a smartphone app for a small rental fee. Users can pick up a scooter from any location and leave it at their destination. In recent months, the scooters have gained popularity and can now be seen frequently throughout the City of Beverly Hills.

Can the City of Beverly Hills restrict or regulate their use?

The California Vehicle Code (21225) allows cities to adopt local ordinances that regulate the parking and operation of motorized scooters on local streets, so long as they do not conflict with the Code.

The City is currently reviewing policies in neighboring jurisdictions and will bring the matter before the Beverly Hills City Council during a Study Session on July 24, 2018 at 2:30 p.m. Ultimately, the City Council would review and approve any recommendations on restrictions and additional enforcement.

What are the rules and restrictions for using motorized scooters?

1. Scooters cannot be used on roadways with a speed limit greater than 25 MPH unless there is a designated bicycle lane. (§ 21235(b))
2. Riders must wear a helmet, regardless of age. (§ 21235(c))
3. Riders must have a valid driver's license or driver permit. (§ 21235(d))
4. Scooters are for single riders only (no passengers). (§ 21235(e))
5. Riders must keep at least one hand on the handlebars while operating. (§ 21235(f))
6. Scooters cannot be used on sidewalks – they should be used in a bicycle lane if present, otherwise in the right-hand curb or right edge of the roadway. (§ 21235(g), § 21228 and §21229)

7. When parked/left on the sidewalk, there must be enough room for pedestrian traffic. (§ 21235(i))
8. Riders cannot be under the influence of alcohol or drugs. (§ 21221.5)
9. When used during darkness, scooters must be equipped with a light that illuminates the highway in front of the rider and is visible from 300 feet away. (§21223(a)(1))

I am concerned about the safety of the riders and those around them. What is the Beverly Hills Police Department doing to protect all involved?

As with all bicycles and vehicles in the City, our department ensures laws are obeyed and those who violate them are cited appropriately. The safety of our residents and visitors is our top priority and we will work to mitigate any potential risks to riders and non-riders.

I have noticed scooters left on sidewalks – is this permissible? Who is responsible for them and what should I do if I see an unattended scooter?

The sidewalk is considered part of the highway and "traffic" includes pedestrian traffic. Therefore, our police officers, traffic enforcement officers, and parking enforcement officers can remove these scooters from the sidewalk and store them upon determining they are obstructing the normal movement of traffic or creating a hazard to other traffic.

If you come across a scooter that is obstructing vehicular or pedestrian traffic, please call the Beverly Hills Police Department Non-Emergency Line at (310) 550-4951.