

# Alternative Vehicle Information



**SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**This brochure summarizes the information and regulations regarding Alternative Vehicles.**

- 1. Motorized Scooters**
- 2. Mopeds and Motorized Bicycles**
- 3. Electric Bicycles**
- 4. Electronically Motorized Boards**

**Electric Bicycles**  
**312.5(a) CVC**



This definition applies to **electric bikes with functional pedals ONLY** with an output of **less than 750 watts**. Electric bicycles must follow the same rules of the road as bicycles [21200 CVC]. Only Class 1 and Class 2 electric bicycles may be ridden in Class 2 Bikeways and the rider must not endanger the safety of bicyclists [21209(b) CVC].

Electric bicycles have now been divided into three different categories: Class 1, Class 2 and Class 3.

Class 1: Pedal assisted only  
Maximum speed of 20 MPH

Class 2: Throttle assisted only  
Maximum speed of 20 MPH

Class 3: Pedal assisted only  
Maximum speed of 28 MPH  
Must have a speedometer.

**Laws and Regulations**

- Bikeways (bike path & bike lane) prohibited.  
*21207.5(a) CVC*
- Must be 16 years old but **NO DL required**  
*21213(a) CVC*

Bicycle helmet required (includes passengers)  
*21213(b) CVC*

**Electrically Motorized Board 313.5 CVC**



This device is commonly known as a Hoverboard and can be operated almost anywhere a pedestrian can walk, unless prohibited by local ordinance. Hoverboards may be operated in a Class 2 or Class 4 Bikeway.

**Laws and Regulations**

- Must be 16 years old but **NO DL required** *21291 CVC*
- Bicycle helmet required *21292 CVC*
- Required equipment during darkness *21293(a), (b), (c) or (d) CVC*
- Restricted to 35 MPH streets or slower *21294(a) CVC*
- Speeding (15MPH maximum) *21294(b) CVC*
- DUI on an Electrically Motorized Board *21296(a) CVC*

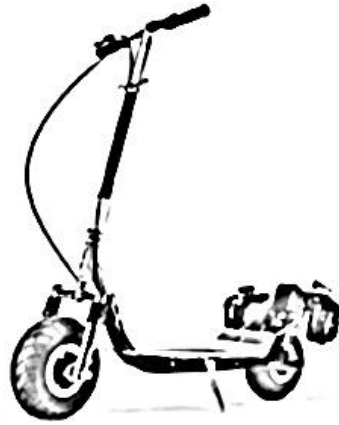
**SDPD DIVISIONS**

**For general information please contact your local police substation.**

<b>Central Division</b>	<b>(619) 744-9500</b>
<b>Eastern Division</b>	<b>(858) 495-7900</b>
<b>Mid-City Division</b>	<b>(619) 516-3000</b>
<b>Northeastern Division</b>	<b>(858) 538-8000</b>
<b>Northern Division</b>	<b>(858) 552-1700</b>
<b>Northwestern Division</b>	<b>(858) 523-7000</b>
<b>Southeastern Division</b>	<b>(619) 527-3500</b>
<b>Southern Division</b>	<b>(619) 424-0400</b>
<b>Western Division</b>	<b>(619) 692-4800</b>

**December 31, 2018**

## Motorized Scooters 407.5(a)(b) CVC



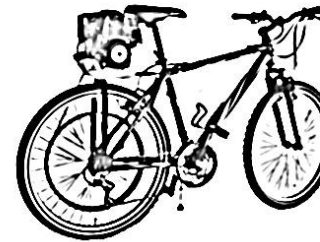
Motorized scooters (electric or gas-powered) may be operated on public roadways **without registration or insurance** as long as they are either in a marked bike lane or on a street with a speed limit of 25 MPH or slower.

### Laws and Regulations

- DUI Regulations apply to motorized scooters  
21221.5 CVC
- Lights are required during darkness  
21223(a)(1), (2), or (3) CVC
- Required use of marked Bike Lane  
21229(a) CVC
- Restricted to streets limited to 25 MPH or slower 21235(b) CVC

- A Bicycle helmet is not required for operators over the age of 18 years of age.
- Bicycle helmets **are** required for all operators under 18 years of age.  
21235(c) CVC
- Valid Driver's License or Permit required 21235(d) CVC
- May not ride on sidewalk  
21235(g) CVC
- May not exceed 15 MPH 22411 CVC
- Must use right hand edge of roadway – 21228(b) CVC
- Must dismount and cross on foot as a pedestrian for left turn –  
21228(a)(2) CVC
- Must have a brake – 21235(a) CVC
- No passengers allowed – 21235(e) CVC
- 21235 (f) Operate a motorized scooter carrying any package, bundle, or article that prevents the operator from keeping at least one hand upon the handlebars.
- Handlebars must be below shoulder level – 21235(h) CVC
- Cannot park and block sidewalk with scooter – 21235(i) CVC
- Cannot attach to another vehicle – 21235(j) CVC

## Mopeds and Motorized Bicycles 406(a) CVC



This definition applies to gas powered bicycles with working pedals and electric bicycles **without pedals** which are capable of traveling at a maximum speed of 30 MPH. These Mopeds are required to be registered and insured, and the operator must possess a Class M2 motorcycle license. Mopeds **may** be ridden in bike lanes, but the rider must ride in a manner that does not endanger the safety of bicyclists (21209(b) CVC).

### Laws and Regulations

- Special DMV plate required  
5030 CVC
- M2 license required  
12500(b) CVC
- Insurance required  
16028(a) CVC
- Motorcycle helmet required  
27803(b) CVC
- Lighting and Equipment requirements  
24015(a) or (b) CVC
- Bike path or Bikeway prohibited  
21207.5 CVC