

From: [Safe Walkways](#)
To: [PublicRecords](#)
Cc: [Rafael Castellanos](#); [Sandy Naranjo](#); [Ann Moore](#); [Danielle Moore](#); [Dan Malcolm](#); [Frank Urtasun](#); [Michael Zucchet](#)
Subject: Item 88- Please pass the change to Code Section 8.07 and protect pedestrians
Date: Tuesday, May 9, 2023 9:58:58 AM
Attachments: [unnamed-1.png](#)

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Port Commissioners,

As co-chair of Safe Walkways I want to support the changes to the *San Diego Unified Port District (SDUPD) Code Section 8.07 – Regulation of Motorized Mobility Devices and Pedicabs on District Tidelands* to prohibit all motorized vehicles and pedicabs from operating in pedestrian areas on Port managed property and limiting them to streets and bike lanes. Please pass this ordinance.

The proliferation of these fast, often barely controlled devices, have permanently injured and even killed pedestrians on California walkways that used to be safe to walk. The vehicles are having a negative impact on people using, let alone enjoying, the Port's walkways. I know I was almost hit one day by a couple on a Bird scooter going at least 10 mph on the sidewalk, and it was seriously frightening and kept me away from walking on the Port until they were geofenced.

Since the Port's mission is to encourage people to use the Port managed land, anything that drives people away, especially out of fear, should be prohibited. State law already makes it illegal to operate motorized scooters on sidewalks.

Under ADA law, disability scooters should be allowed. Since Segawys are allowed on sidewalks under state law, and the fact that the Segawy tours are well controlled, I have no objection to them being exempt.

I am concerned about enforcement. The City of San Diego made a similar ordinance in 2019 for the boardwalks, but has not effectively enforced it for privately owned motorized vehicles. As part of updating the ordinance, please work with the Harbor Police to have an enforcement plan in place.

Shared Motorized Devices, like Bird and Spin, are already geofenced off the Port property downtown and this ordinance would support that policy.

Pedicabs should be fairly easy to enforce, since they can be ticketed and drivers can lose their license. Due to the large size of the pedicabs and increasingly dangerous, fast and reckless driving from many pedicab drivers, I agree that they should all be prohibited except in streets and bike lanes. Unfortunately, there are a significant number of irresponsible pedicab drivers, which have caused this new ordinance to be desperately needed.

Individually owned motorized vehicles are posing a great danger and difficulty enforcing. These motorized vehicles are often driven recklessly around pedestrians and need to be prohibited. The police may have a strategy in mind for enforcement.

Will individuals be ticketed? How much is the fine? Unlike the shared mobility devices, these vehicles will mostly be locally owned and the police efforts will help educate the community.

Please consider something simple for enforcing the law for privately owned vehicles, like taking the keys or the battery, and making the offender walk or carry the vehicle home. The police are probably not going to confiscate the vehicle, although they could, yet the offender should not be able to drive away and continue the same behavior. These small items could be tagged and picked up at headquarters. An administrative fee for handling these items could be added to any ticket, to get the keys or battery back. Social media would educate the local public quickly.

Having a publicized enforcement blitz soon after the effective date of the ordinance is important.

Thank you for taking public safety seriously.

Sincerely,
Janet Rogers
Co-chair Safe Walkways
816-550-3579

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