

CIRCULAR



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Title
Motorized Bicycles
Number
CIR-26-08
Effective Date
September 14, 2026
Expiration Date
September 14, 2028
Related to:
GO-SPT-303.01 (Traffic Enforcement)

The purpose of this circular is to inform members of updated regulations for operating motorized bicycles (e.g., e-bikes) on sidewalks.

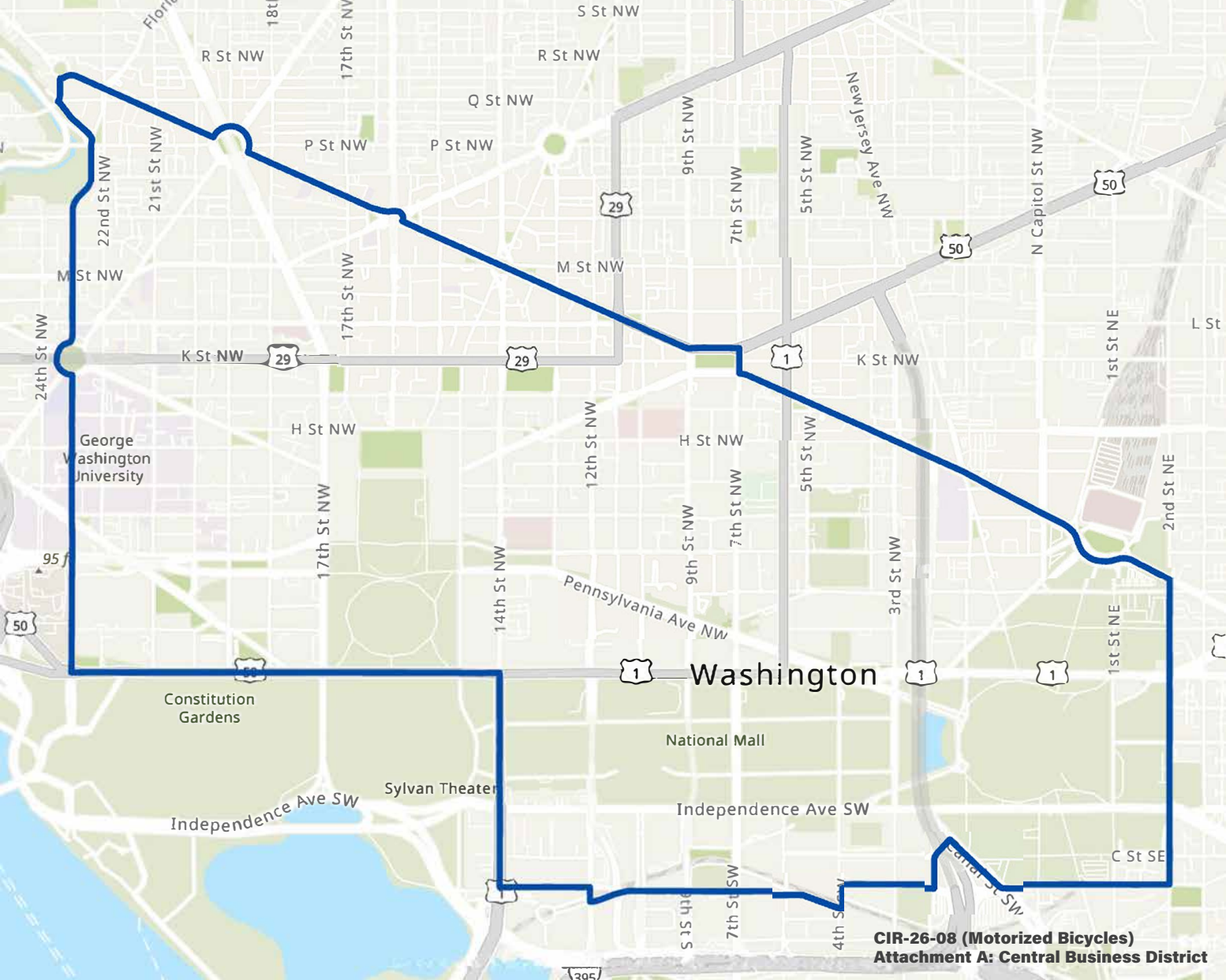
MOTORIZED BICYCLE OPERATION ON SIDEWALKS

Need to Know	The District Department of Transportation has amended its regulations to now permit the use of motorized bicycles (e.g., e-bikes) on sidewalks outside of the Central Business District (Attachment A) provided the rider does not create a hazard. <u>NOTE:</u> The mayor may alter or restrict authorized locations through issuance of a mayor's order. Members will be notified if such an order is issued.
Definition	"Motorized bicycle" means a two- or three-wheeled vehicle with all of the following characteristics: • A post mounted seat or saddle for each person that the device is designed and equipped to carry; • A vehicle with two or three wheels in contact with the ground, which are at least 16 inches in diameter; • Fully operative pedals for human propulsion; and • A motor incapable of propelling the device at a speed of more than 20 miles per hour on level ground.
Violation	Riding on sidewalk where not permitted: \$25 fine (T-609)
Reference	18 DCMR 1201.9 18 DCMR 2602.1 DC Official Code § 50-2201.02(11A)(A)

While this circular will expire on September 14, 2028, changes made to Title 18 of the DCMR as described in this circular will be permanent until such time as amended.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffery W. Carroll".

Jeffery W. Carroll
Interim Chief of Police



CIR-26-08 (Motorized Bicycles)
Attachment A: Central Business District