

Cyndie Martel

From: Bob Mittelstaedt <ramittelstaedt1010@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 9:17 AM
To: Cyndie Martel
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment (belated, sorry) in Support of Agenda Item No. 11

On behalf of E-Bike Access, the Marin-based non-profit entity, we enthusiastically support AB 1778 sponsored by Damon Connolly and encourage the Ross Town Council to adopt the ordinance as described in Chief Pata's comprehensive report.

AB 1778, effective January 1 of this year, authorizes the County for unincorporated areas and each Marin municipality to enact ordinances requiring riders of throttle ebikes with class 2 labels to be at least 16 years of age and wear helmets.

Current law already contains those requirements for class 3 pedal-assist e-bikes. It makes eminent sense to extend the same requirements to the much more dangerous class 2 throttle e-bikes.

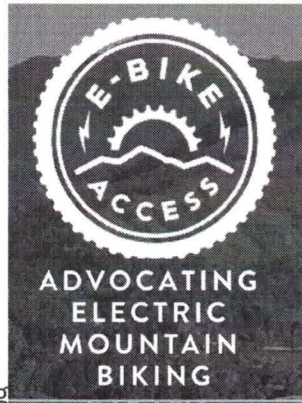
For unincorporated areas, the Board of Supervisors has already done so, with an effective date of July 1. All Marin municipalities that have considered the matter have also adopted the same ordinance. Only Ross and San Rafael remain.

As anyone who spends any time on Shady Lane or elsewhere in Marin can attest, children under 16 on throttle electric devices (whether they are e-bikes or, at most of them are, e-motorcycles masquerading as e-bikes) are a public health problem, not just to the riders but to everyone on the streets.

This ordinance is an important step not just for youth safety but for the safety of all of us.

It will give parents another reason to say no to children who face peer pressure to get a throttle device but may be oblivious to the inherent danger presented by them. It will give middle schools another basis for keeping their students safe. And it will provide local law enforcement with another enforcement tool.

For parents hoodwinked into buying an e-moto thinking it was a legit e-bike, they should insist on a refund from the manufacturer or retailer as outlined in a pending class action against Super73.



<https://www.ebikeaccess.org>