

HEBER PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT REPORT TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING DATE: January 15, 2026

FROM: Madeline Dessert, General Manager

SUBJECT: Ordinance 2025-21 Strictly Prohibiting The Operation of Motorized Vehicles In Heber Parks And Recreation Facilities

BACKGROUND

The proposed ordinance was presented to the Heber Public Utility Board of Directors at the December 18, 2025 meeting. The first reading of Ordinance 2025-21 was waived. The Board of Directors requested the following addition: The General Manager and/or Board of Directors may grant exemptions for temporary use.

Ordinance 2025-21 creates a strict prohibition on the operation of motorized vehicles within parks and recreation facilities managed by the Heber Public Utility District. The purpose of the ordinance is to enhance public safety, protect park infrastructure, and preserve a peaceful recreational environment for residents and visitors. Increased use of motorized devices such as electric bicycles, scooters, ATVs, and similar vehicles has raised safety concerns, particularly in areas heavily used by children, families, and pedestrians.

Enforcement provisions allow for citations or removal from facilities. Adoption of this ordinance supports safe, accessible, and well-maintained public spaces.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Adopt Ordinance 2025-21 Strictly Prohibiting The Operation of Motorized Vehicles In Heber Parks And Recreation Facilities.
2. Alternate: Do not adopt Ordinance 2025-21 Strictly Prohibiting The Operation of Motorized Vehicles In Heber Parks And Recreation Facilities and provide direction to staff.

Respectfully,

Madeline Dessert,
General Manager

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-21

AN ORDINANCE OF THE HEBER PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT STRICTLY PROHIBITING THE OPERATION OF MOTORIZED VEHICLES IN HEBER PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

SECTION 1. PURPOSE AND INTENT

The purpose of this Ordinance is to promote public safety, protect the integrity park and recreation facilities, and ensure a peaceful recreational environment by prohibiting the operation of motorized vehicles within designated parks and recreation areas under the jurisdiction of the Heber Public Utility District.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Ordinance, “motorized vehicle” shall mean any vehicle powered by a motor or engine, including but not limited to: Electric bicycles (Class 1, Class 2, and Class 3), Electric scooters, Segways, Hoverboards, All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs), Off-Highway Vehicles (OHVs), and any other motorized device not specifically listed that is designed for personal transport or off-road travel.

SECTION 3. PROHIBITION

The operation, riding, driving, or use of any motorized vehicle is strictly prohibited within the following public parks and recreation facilities: Margarito “Tito” Huerta Park, Estancia Park, Children’s Park Edward “Jiggs” Johnson Park, Correll Park, and the Heber Recreation Center (indoor and outdoor premises)

SECTION 4. EXEMPTIONS

The following uses are exempt from this Ordinance:

Authorized personnel or emergency personnel operating electric bicycles or other motorized equipment to perform their official duties, including maintenance, emergency response, or operational activities.

ADA mobility devices required for accessibility in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), including mobility scooters, electric wheelchairs, and other medically necessary assistive devices.

Temporary Uses maybe authorized by the General Manager or the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall take effect and be enforced thirty (30) days after adoption.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 15th day of January, 2026, by the following

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-21

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE HEBER PUBLIC
UTILITY DISTRICT STRICTLY PROHIBITING
THE OPERATION OF MOTORIZED VEHICLES
IN HEBER PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES**

ATTEST:

By: _____
Jacob Bermudez,
Clerk of the Board

By: _____
Pompeyo Tabarez,
Board President

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: _____
Steve Walker,
General Counsel

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-21

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE HEBER PUBLIC
UTILITY DISTRICT STRICTLY PROHIBITING
THE OPERATION OF MOTORIZED VEHICLES
IN HEBER PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES**

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF IMPERIAL
HEBER PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

I, Jacob Bermudez, Clerk of the Board of the Heber Public Utility District, County of Imperial, State of California, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing resolution was dully passed, approved and adopted by the Board of Directors of the Heber Public Utility District at its regularly scheduled meeting held on the 15th of January 2026.

By: _____
Jacob Bermudez,
Clerk of the Board