

# HEBER PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT REPORT TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**MEETING DATE:** December 18, 2025

**FROM:** Madeline Dessert, General Manager

**SUBJECT:** Ordinance 2025-22 Requesting The County Of Imperial To Adopt And Enforce County-Wide Electric Bicycle Safety Measures

## **BACKGROUND**

The Heber Public Utility District is proposing a resolution requesting the County of Imperial adopt and enforce countywide e-bike safety measures. The use of electric bicycles has increased significantly throughout the county, including within unincorporated communities such as Heber. While e-bikes offer alternative transportation options, improper and unsafe use has raised growing concerns related to public safety, particularly for children, pedestrians, and park users.

The proposed resolution requests the County of Imperial establish consistent safety regulations, enhance enforcement efforts, and implement educational outreach related to e-bike operation. A coordinated countywide approach would provide uniform standards, improve compliance, and reduce safety risks in public spaces. Adoption of this resolution demonstrates the District's commitment to protecting residents, preserving community facilities, and supporting responsible e-bike use. No fiscal impact is associated with adoption of this resolution.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

1. Adopt Ordinance 2025-22 Requesting The County Of Imperial To Adopt And Enforce County-Wide Electric Bicycle Safety Measures
2. Alternative: Do Not Adopt Ordinance 2025-22 Requesting The County Of Imperial To Adopt And Enforce County-Wide Electric Bicycle Safety Measures

Respectfully,

Madeline Dessert,  
General Manager

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2025-22**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE HEBER PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT REQUESTING THE COUNTY OF IMPERIAL TO ADOPT AND ENFORCE COUNTY-WIDE ELECTRIC BICYCLE SAFETY MEASURES**

**WHEREAS**, the Heber Public Utility District (“District”) is committed to promoting the safety, well-being, and quality of life of its residents, particularly children and families who frequently use local parks and community spaces; and

**WHEREAS**, the use of electric bicycles (“e-bikes”) has increased significantly within Imperial County, resulting in rising concerns regarding unsafe operation, lack of enforcement, and risks to pedestrians and non-motorized travelers; and

**WHEREAS**, numerous community observations reflect ongoing safety issues associated with e-bike use, including excessive speeds, operation on walkways and parks not designated for such use, and operation by minors without adequate safety equipment or supervision; and

**WHEREAS**, On October 01, 2025 Governor Gavin Newsome approved Assembly Bill Number 875; and

**WHEREAS**, Assembly Bill Number 875 authorizes a peace officer or a regularly employed and salaried employee who is engaged in directing traffic or enforcing parking laws and regulations to remove a vehicle when, among other things, the officer arrests a person driving or in control of a vehicle for an alleged offense, and the officer is, by the Vehicle Code or other law, required or permitted to take, and does take, the person into custody; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of Imperial, through its Board of Supervisors and relevant agencies, holds the authority to establish county-wide safety standards, regulations, and enforcement protocols to support the safe use of e-bikes and related motorized devices; and

**WHEREAS**, enhancing e-bike safety across the county would benefit all communities, including unincorporated areas such as Heber, by preventing accidents, promoting responsible operation, and protecting the integrity of recreational facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the District seeks coordination with the County of Imperial to create a county-wide approach on e-bike safety that is consistent with Assembly Bill Number 875 to enhance enforcement, and promote educational outreach to youth and families.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Directors of the Heber Public Utility District hereby urges the County of Imperial to adopt a formal resolution implementing and enforcing comprehensive e-bike safety regulations county-wide, including but not limited to:

1. Establishment of clear rules on the operation of e-bikes;
2. Enforcement of safe practices to include age, helmet, and speed regulations are consistent with state law;
3. Development of penalties for unsafe or unlawful operation;

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SAFETY MEASURES**

4. Clear posting of safety signage in County-managed areas;
6. Collaboration with local districts, cities, schools, and law enforcement to ensure consistent enforcement and community awareness.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Directors directs the General Manager to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the County of Imperial Board of Supervisors and request consideration of county-wide adoption.

**PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Directors of the Heber Public Utility District on this 18<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2025, by the following vote:

**AYES:**

**NOES:**

**ABSTAIN:**

**ABSENT:**

**ATTEST:**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jacob Bermudez,  
Clerk of the Board

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Pompeyo Tabarez,  
Board President

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Steve Walker,  
General Counsel

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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 18th day of December, 2025.

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Jacob Bermudez,  
Clerk of the Board