



Memorandum

Date: March 12, 2024

To: Mayor Christi Fraga
Vice Mayor Maureen Porras
Councilwoman Digna Cabral
Councilwoman Nicole Reinoso

From: Councilmember Rafael Pinyero

Subject: **Amendment of Resolution Urging Florida State Legislature to Amend Florida Statutes §§ 316.2128 and 316.2065**

Introduction

The City of Doral's urban core has rapidly expanded, connecting a diverse network of residential and commercial communities where many residents use alternative transportation, including micromobility devices. Micromobility devices such as automated scooters and bicycles can reach speeds exceeding twenty-five (25) miles per hour. As these devices become increasingly popular, the City must ensure that proper safety measures are in place to protect users and pedestrians alike.

Currently, Florida law allows individuals under the age of sixteen to operate micromobility devices and permits the operation of these devices without the use of a protective helmet. Additionally, Florida law pre-empts the City of Doral from enacting laws that would require a driver's license or mandate the use of protective gear.

In light of this, it is important to not only promote the use of helmets but also consider enhancing visibility for micromobility device riders. Reflective gear, such as vests or clothing with reflective strips, significantly improves visibility for riders, especially during low-light conditions. Therefore, I recommend modifying the safety measures to require the compulsory use of reflective gear for all micromobility device riders, in addition to the previously proposed requirements for helmets and driver's licenses.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact on this item.

Recommendation

I respectfully request that the Mayor and City Council approve a modification to the previously proposed Resolution, urging the Florida Legislature to amend Florida Statutes §§ 316.2128 and 316.2065 to include the following:

1. Require a valid Florida Driver's License in order to operate a micromobility device.
2. Mandate the use of protective helmets for all individuals eighteen (18) years of age and younger who operate a micromobility device.
3. Require the use of reflective gear for all micromobility device riders, enhancing visibility and safety, particularly during nighttime or low-light conditions.

These modifications will not only increase safety for riders but also improve the visibility of those using micromobility devices in our city, reducing the risk of accidents and promoting a safer environment for all.