



Motorized Bicycle Regulations (Motor Scooters)

from the St. Joseph Police Department

A motorized bicycle is defined as any two-wheeled or three-wheeled device having an automatic transmission and a motor with a cylinder capacity of not more than 50 cubic centimeters, which produces less than three gross brake horsepower and is capable of propelling the device at a maximum speed of not more than 30 miles per hour on level ground. (City Ordinance 28-1) If the vehicle does not meet all of these requirements, it must be licensed as a motor vehicle.

A motorized bicycle is not required to be licensed or have insurance. However, the operator of a motorized bicycle is required to have a valid driver's license. (City Ordinance 28-337 and 28-929)

The operator of a motorized bicycle is required to obey all the same traffic laws as an operator of a motor vehicle. (City Ordinance 28-928)

Motorized bicycles are not allowed to operate on any public roadway designated as part of the federal interstate highway system. (City Ordinance 28-929)

These roadways in the city of St. Joseph are as follows:

- Interstate I-29
- Interstate I-229
- Belt Hwy from North City limits to Frederick and Belt Hwy, and Pear South to I-29
- Frederick Ave. from I-29 to 9th Street
- 9th and 10th Street from Frederick to Garfield
- Garfield from 9th to 22nd Street
- Pear from 22nd Street to the Belt Hwy

You may cross these roadways but you may not operate for any distance on these roadways.

Helmets are not required if the vehicle meets the definition of a motorized bicycle, but helmet use is strongly encouraged.

