

PTSF POSITION STATEMENT ON PREVENTING MICROMOBILITY-RELATED INJURIES

Approved December 11, 2025 by PTSF Board of Directors

Micromobility offers affordable, eco-friendly transportation, but its rapid adoption has created urgent safety challenges. Micromobility refers to lightweight, typically electric vehicles such as bicycles, e-bikes, e-scooters, and two-wheeled mopeds designed for short-distance travel. Micromobility-related injuries and deaths are a growing public health issue affecting both urban and rural communities. The impact on the pediatric population -our future- is particularly alarming.

Supporting Evidence

- Affordable and eco-friendly, micromobility devices have surged in popularity across all age groups.¹
- Without the protection of a vehicle enclosure, micromobility users are classified as “vulnerable road users,” akin to pedestrians.¹
- Injuries involving micromobility devices have risen sharply, with over 360,000 ER visits from 2021 to 2023.²
- Children and teens under the age of 15 accounted for a significant portion of these injuries, with nearly 36% of all e-scooter and e-bike injuries during that period occurring in children under 14 years of age.²
- Helmet use—and the type of helmet required—remains inconsistent across education practices and legislative policies.^{3,6}
- E-bike and e-scooter laws vary widely across states and localities, creating confusion and increasing injury risk.⁴
- Pennsylvania’s current statutes address e-bike age requirements but lack guidance on e-scooter age requirements and helmet use for e-bikes and standing e-scooters.^{5,6}

To achieve our vision of “zero preventable deaths,” we call for coordinated action to:

- Advocate for universal definitions of micromobility and motorized pedestrian conveyance devices.
- Advocate for age-appropriate policies and legislation governing e-bikes and e-scooters, with special consideration for children and adolescents.⁷
- Advocate for clear helmet requirements, including appropriate helmet types, for all micromobility device users.⁸
- Support speed limitations for electric micromobility devices.^{9, 10}
- Promote safe-riding practices, particularly in shared spaces.⁹
- Encourage trauma centers to educate staff so they can counsel patients and families on micromobility safety and helmet compliance.
- Support comprehensive injury surveillance for all micromobility devices.
- Encourage trauma centers with high rates of micromobility injuries to implement targeted safety outreach programs.¹⁰

By strengthening definitions, harmonizing policies, and prioritizing education, we can help reduce preventable injuries and deaths while supporting safe, sustainable mobility for all.

Sources:

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