E-Scooter, E-Bike, and Hoverboard Safety

Most e-scooters, e-bikes, and hoverboards use powerful lithium-ion batteries that can be dangerous if not used, charged, or stored correctly. Follow these guidelines to use these vehicles safely and prevent fire hazards and injuries.

Charging and Battery Safety

Never use or charge a damaged or leaking battery, which can overheat and catch on fire or even explode.

Signs of damaged or defective batteries include:

- Odd noises
- Changes in color or shape
- Leaks
- Too much heat
- Odors

If you notice any of these signs, call 911 immediately. Try to move the battery or vehicle away from anything that could catch on fire.

- Overcharging or overheating batteries can be dangerous:
  - Always monitor batteries while they charge and never leave them charging unattended, even in common areas.
  - Don’t charge batteries under pillows, on beds, or on couches.
  - Use the charger that came with your battery or vehicle and follow the manufacturer’s charging instructions.
- Always use batteries specifically designed for your vehicle and endorsed by qualified testing labs like the Underwriters Laboratory (UL Listed).
- To prevent fire hazards, don’t store vehicles in corridors or staircases. Store them outside or in designated storage areas within buildings.
• Follow battery manufacturer’s storage instructions and store batteries at room temperature.
• Place batteries in your vehicle as soon as possible and don’t expose them to direct sunlight or combustible materials.
• Recycle batteries properly by bringing them to battery recycling locations. Don’t put batteries in the general trash.

Before recycling, cover the battery’s poles with tape and place it in a plastic Ziplock bag.

Avoiding Injuries

Injuries caused by vehicles like e-bikes, e-scooters, and hoverboards increased by 70% between 2017 and 2020, with head injuries accounting for 40% of reported injuries and 71 reported fatalities.¹

Riding damaged vehicles can make you lose control and lead to crashes. To avoid injuries:

• Always wear a helmet.
• Inspect your vehicle for damage before riding, including the handlebars, brakes, throttles, bells, lights, tires, cables, and frame.