

ELECTRIC BIKES IN BOSTON

E-bikes are bicycles that use an electric assist motor that allows riders to travel farther distances with less effort than traditional bikes.

WHY USE AN E-BIKE:



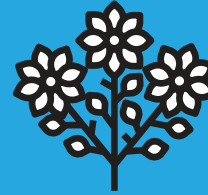
GET TO AND FROM WORK



RUNNING ERRANDS



HELP CARRYING A HEAVY LOAD



TO GO TO A PARK



TO AVOID TRAFFIC



WHO CAN E-BIKE:

E-bikes allow riders of all ages and abilities to cover long distances and difficult terrain. E-bike users on average are older with 65%-75% of users being over the age of 65.



CAUTION:

Using an e-bike requires a bit of practice because of its corresponding speed, and because it is heavier than a traditional bike. Wear protective gear and practice using the electric assist motor in safe locations, such as a parking lot, before using your bike on the road. E-bikes can also require more maintenance than a traditional bicycle, due to higher speeds which cause the brakes to wear out faster.



WHERE TO BUY AN E-BIKE:

E-bikes may be purchased online or at local bike shops across the Boston metro area. If you're interested in testing an e-bike, reach out to your local bike shop.

E-BIKE TYPES:

E-bikes are a bicycle with an electric motor that can be used for propulsion. There are a few different types of e-bikes:

- **Class 1: Pedal Assist:** The electric drive on the e-bike is only activated by pedaling and ceases to provide assistance once the e-bike reaches 20 mph. These e-bikes use a motor system and sensor to detect how fast you are pedaling, and provide a boost of power based on that. Unless otherwise specified the term e-bike refers to Class 1 pedal-assist e-bikes.
- **Class 2: Throttle on Demand:** Throttle on Demand: The electric drive on the e-bike can be activated through a throttle element and may also be activated through pedaling with top speeds limited to 20 mph. These e-bikes work similar to a twist throttle like motorcycles or mopeds use.
- **Class 3: Speed Pedelec:** The electric drive system on the e-bike is activated by pedaling which ceases to provide assistance once the e-bike reaches 28 mph.
- **Class 4: Motorcycle/Moped:** Motorcycle/Moped: The electric drive system is activated by pedaling or throttle. These e-bikes can reach top speeds above 28 mph.

E-CARGO BIKES:

E-cargo bikes are motorized bikes, which can come in any class listed above, that are designed to carry heavy loads, including additional people, or goods.

E-BIKE COST:

A typical starter model will cost somewhere between \$500-1,600. Cost varies based on the bike's weight, and the battery and motor type. Many vendors provide access to financing, so instead of paying the full cost upfront, you can also make smaller monthly payments.

CURRENT E-BIKE LAW IN MASSACHUSETTS (as of June 2020):

E-bikes can be interpreted as a “motorized bicycle”, which makes them subject to different rules from traditional bicycles. Since e-bikes are still relatively new, be sure to check with state or local authorities regarding current regulations for e-bikes.