As of 2022, e-bikes have their own classification in Massachusetts! E-bike riders are afforded the same rights and privileges related to all bicycle riders, except that e-bikes are not allowed to be ridden on sidewalks.

E-Bike Classifications

Class 1: Bicycle or tricycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the e-bike reaches 20 mph.

Class 2: Bicycle or tricycle equipped with a throttle-actuated motor that ceases to provide assistance when the e-bike reaches 20 mph.

Note: MassBike will continue to advocate for a Class 3 definition to match Massachusetts law with federal definitions

Where can I ride e-bikes in Massachusetts?
Almost anywhere you currently ride a traditional bike!

- Allowed on roadways and in bike lanes
- Allowed on bike paths, except where prohibited by local jurisdictions (check for signage!)
- Not allowed on sidewalks
- Not allowed on natural surface trails (ie mountain bike trails), unless specifically allowed by the local jurisdiction (check for signage!)

E-bikes riders can ride at higher speeds more easily than on traditional bikes. Be respectful of other users on roads and paths by slowing down to pass and ride at a speed that is within your handling abilities.

Respect all speed limits on pathways, as these limits are often slower than the top speeds capable on more e-bikes.

