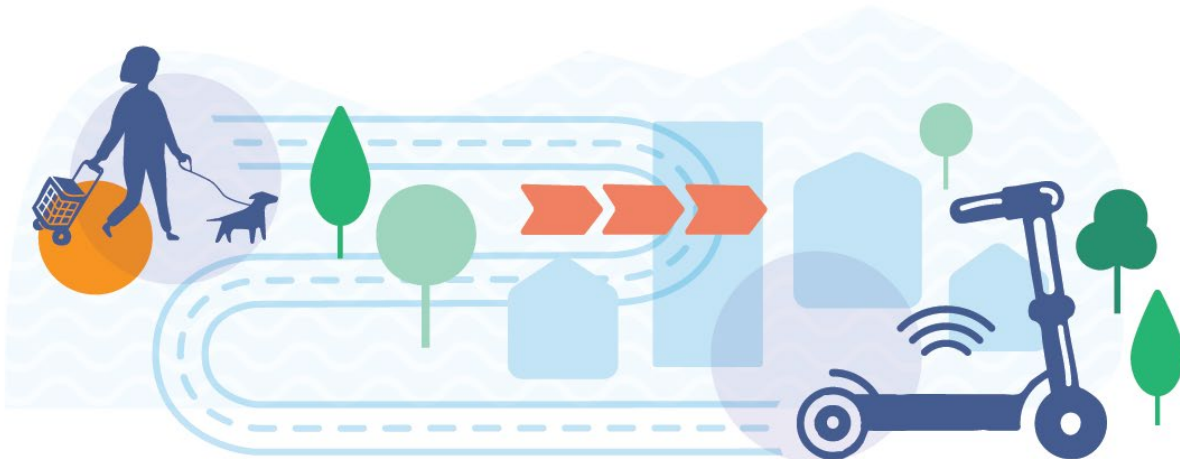


Frequently Asked Questions for Municipal Governments

Electric Kick Scooter Pilot Project (April 5, 2024 – April 5, 2028)



These FAQs provide information for municipalities on the four-year BC electric kick scooter pilot project that started on April 5, 2024. Communities are encouraged to review this information and the [Electric Kick Scooter Pilot Project Regulation](#) (B.C. Reg 247/2023). Municipalities can join by passing a resolution or bylaw and communicating it to the Ministry of Transportation and Transit.

Questions about the pilot project can be sent to the Ministry of Transportation and Transit at: MVA.Pilot.Project@gov.bc.ca.

Contents

General information.....	3
1. What are electric kick scooters and why are they being piloted?.....	3
2. What's different about the new pilot project?	3
3. Why should communities join the pilot project?	3
4. Where can municipalities find information on the pilot project?	3
How communities can join	4
5. How can a municipality join the pilot project?.....	4
6. What must the resolution/bylaw say?.....	4
7. What happens after the resolution/bylaw is passed?	4
8. What must current pilot communities do to continue participating?	4
9. Is a bylaw needed to set municipal rules for the pilot?	4
10. Can a bylaw set different rules for the pilot project?	5
11. What will happen if a community does not join the new pilot project?	5
12. Is the Province providing funding to help communities participate?	5
Pilot project rules	5
13. Where can I find the new pilot project rules?	5
14. What are the rules for devices?	6
15. Are the rules for devices the same as in the previous pilot project?	6
16. What are the rules for operators?	6
17. Are the rules for operators the same as in the current pilot project?	6
18. Who is responsible for enforcing the rules?	6
19. What are the penalties for offences?	7
Data collection and reporting	7
20. What data will participating communities have to collect and report?	7
21. What other data is being collected for the pilot project?	7
22. What will the data be used for?	7
Miscellaneous	7
23. What was learned from the first pilot project (2021-2024)?	7
24. Why aren't other types of devices like one-wheeled devices being piloted?	8
25. What will happen at the end of the new pilot project in 2028?	8
26. What other Canadian jurisdictions allow electric kick scooters?	8

General information

1. What are electric kick scooters and why are they being piloted?

Electric kick scooters are battery-powered devices with a motor and two to four wheels, a platform for standing and handlebars for steering. Electric kick scooter use is not currently legal in all BC communities.

From 2021 to 2024, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (now Ministry of Transportation and Transit) held a pilot project to test electric kick scooter use in participating pilot communities, along with guidelines for users and rules of the road. The initial pilot project ended on April 5, 2024, at which time a new four-year pilot was established under a new regulation and legislative framework. The results of the pilot project will help to determine whether electric kick scooters should be authorized for permanent use in BC.

2. What's different about the new pilot project?

The new pilot project provides opportunity to collect more ridership and safety data before a decision is made on whether to permanently regulate these devices. It is longer (four years instead of three) and has simplified processes for participation and reporting. A new regulation also makes other key changes which are detailed below.

3. Why should communities join the pilot project?

Electric kick scooters are a popular clean, convenient and affordable mode of transportation. Participating communities provide the opportunity for residents and visitors to legally use these devices in their municipal boundaries. Police can issue tickets and fines for electric kick scooter use in a non-participating community.

The Province encourages communities to join the pilot project and assist in assessing the safety of these devices and a potential permanent regulatory framework.

4. Where can municipalities find information on the pilot project?

The [Electric Kick Scooter Pilot Project website](#) contains information on the pilot project, including rules for operators and devices, and the list of currently participating communities.

The Ministry also scheduled outreach sessions in 2024 and 2025 to assist with onboarding. Questions are welcome and can be sent to the Ministry at:

MVA.Pilot.Project@gov.bc.ca

How communities can join

5. How can a municipality join the pilot project?

To join, a municipal council must: 1) pass a resolution (or bylaw) that consents to the pilot project taking place within the municipality; and 2) communicate that decision to the Ministry of Transportation and Transit at: MVA.Pilot.Project@gov.bc.ca

The Ministry publishes the list of participating communities on the [Electric Kick Scooter Pilot Project website](#). Once a community is listed on the website, notice is provided that the pilot project is starting on the date specified. For the pilot project to take effect in a community, they must be listed on the website.

6. What must the resolution say?

The resolution (or bylaw) must fulfil the legislative requirements under [Part 13](#) of the *Motor Vehicle Act*.

Sample wording:

The [name of municipality] consents to the Electric Kick Scooter Pilot Project (B.C. Reg. 247/2023) taking place within the [name of municipality].

7. What happens after the resolution is passed?

A community that passes a resolution (or bylaw) must communicate it to the Ministry of Transportation and Transit at: MVA.Pilot.Project@gov.bc.ca. The name of the community is then posted on the [Electric Kick Scooter Pilot Project website](#), along with the start date (which is the date stated on the website).

8. What must previous pilot communities do to continue participating?

Communities that participated in the first pilot project must follow the same process to join the new pilot project, by passing a resolution (or bylaw).

9. Is a bylaw needed to set municipal rules for the pilot?

A bylaw is not necessary to set municipal rules for the pilot, as the new regulation provides a default regulatory framework, including locations where electric kick scooters may be operated.

Participating communities are authorized to set rules regarding specific matters stated in the regulation, such as prohibiting the use of electric kick scooters on certain roads. The regulation provides flexibility for participating communities to set rules, by either erecting a traffic control device or by enacting a bylaw.

If a pilot community wishes to continue using any bylaw they have for the previous pilot project, they must review it to ensure that it is authorized and necessary under the new pilot project framework.

10. Can a bylaw set different rules for the pilot project?

A bylaw may only be used for specific matters set out in the regulation. A bylaw cannot be inconsistent or conflict with the regulation, as that will render the bylaw inoperative and of no force and effect to the extent that it conflicts or is inconsistent with the regulation.

11. What will happen if a community does not join the new pilot project?

Electric kick scooter use is not legally permitted within a municipality unless the community is participating in the new pilot project. Contraventions can result in a person receiving a violation ticket and fine or facing other consequences.

12. Is the Province providing funding to help communities participate?

Any costs for participating are the responsibility of the community. Communities are also responsible for obtaining any related legal or policy advice to participate in the pilot project.

Pilot project rules

13. Where can I find the new pilot project rules?

The [Electric Kick Scooter Pilot Project Regulation](#) (B.C. Reg 247/2023) sets the main rules for the pilot project, including device standards and rules for operators. [Part 13](#) of the *Motor Vehicle Act* sets overall criteria for pilot projects.

The Ministry [Electric Kick Scooter Pilot Project website](#) provides public information on the current pilot project rules. The website includes a link to an [informational pamphlet](#) (PDF) containing simplified information on the pilot project.

14. What are the rules for devices?

Only devices that meet prescribed requirements set out in section 3 of the regulation are considered “electric kick scooters” and permitted to operate in participating communities. For example, an electric kick scooter must not have a continuous power output rating that exceeds 500W or be capable of travelling above 25 km/h on a flat surface. They must also be designed to transport one person and cannot have pedals, a seat or a structure enclosing the device. Other equipment requirements for electric kick scooters are set out in Part 5 of the regulation.

15. Are the rules for devices the same as in the previous pilot project?

The new regulation makes minor updates to certain device requirements, including the maximum speed (25 km/hr instead of 24 km/hr), braking performance and lighting requirements.

16. What are the rules for operators?

Generally, electric kick scooters can be operated in areas and in a similar manner as cycles but must be operated in a cycle lane if one is available. Rules for highway use depend on whether the highway is inside or outside of a participating community, the speed limits of the highway and who has jurisdiction of the highway.

Part 2 of the regulation sets out where an electric kick scooter can be operated *inside a participating community*. Part 3 of the regulation sets out where an electric kick scooter can be operated *outside a participating community* (e.g., in electoral areas outside of municipal boundaries).

17. Are the rules for operators the same as in the previous pilot project?

The new regulation makes minor updates to certain operator requirements, including where electric kick scooter use is permitted and rules for left turns at intersections. If a current pilot community wishes to continue using an existing bylaw for the new pilot project, they should review it to ensure that it is authorized and necessary under the new pilot project framework.

18. Who is responsible for enforcing the rules?

Law enforcement is responsible for enforcing provincial rules for the pilot project and can issue violation tickets with fines for offences or take other enforcement actions. Municipal bylaw officers are responsible for enforcing any bylaws.

19. What are the penalties for offences?

Penalties are similar to those for cycling-related offences and are set in the Violation Ticket Administration and Fines Regulation. Most offences have a \$109 fine, except the fine for not wearing a helmet, which is \$29. Penalties for contraventions of a bylaw are set by the municipality.

Data collection and reporting

20. What data will participating communities have to collect and report?

The regulation authorizes the Ministry to collect data from participating communities through an annual reporting form. An annual reporting form is being provided each year by the Ministry and requests information on things like community implementation, changes to bylaws and traffic control devices, shared use service providers, and ridership and incident data.

Instructions on completing the form, including the reporting period and deadline, will be stated in instructions in the form.

21. What other data is being collected for the pilot project?

The Ministry is directly obtaining data from other parties, including shared service providers, ICBC, BC Injury Research and Prevention Unit and other third parties.

22. What will the data be used for?

The data collected will help assess the safety of electric kick scooters and determine if and how electric kick scooters should be authorized for general use in BC. Results will also assist in the development of possible future pilot projects on other matters relating to the *Motor Vehicle Act*.

Miscellaneous

23. What was learned from the first pilot project (2021-2024)?

Interim results from the first pilot project were included in a backgrounder to the December 1, 2023 [News Release](#) announcing the new four-year pilot project. They included:

- British Columbians support the testing of electric kick scooters

- Electric kick scooters have environmental benefits and can help meet sustainable transportation goals
- Participating communities have higher levels of support
- Electric kick scooters can help meet sustainable transportation goals
- Injuries and conflicts with other road users are rare when operators follow the rules
- Overall awareness of the project and electric kick scooter laws is low

24. Why aren't other types of devices like one-wheeled devices being piloted?

The current pilot project only applies to electric kick scooters, which are the most popular new form of personal transportation. Other types of emerging personal mobility devices could be piloted in the future.

25. What will happen at the end of the new pilot project in 2028?

The Province will be analyzing the results of the pilot project over the next four years. When the new pilot project ends on April 5, 2028, a decision could be made on whether to permanently authorize electric kick scooters for general use in BC.

26. What other Canadian jurisdictions allow electric kick scooters?

Electric kick scooter use is currently allowed in cities in Alberta (Edmonton and Calgary), New Brunswick (Fredericton) and Saskatchewan (Regina and Saskatoon). Ontario and Quebec have pilot projects underway like B.C. Rules vary by jurisdiction. For example, Edmonton and Calgary only allow electric kick scooter rental companies. Saskatchewan only allows electric kick scooters within municipalities that authorize their use.