# Bicycles & Scooters Policy

## I. Purpose

NICTD's mission statement is "to provide safe, reliable and high-quality passenger service which is responsive to the needs of the people of northern Indiana and southeast Chicagoland." To support this mission, passengers are permitted to carry certain mobility devices onto NICTD trains. NICTD established this Bicycles & Scooters Policy to promote safe, consistent passenger and employee practices regarding personal mobility devices.

## II. Applicability

This policy applies to customers on board NICTD trains or seeking to board NICTD trains who are transporting recreational bicycles or scooters. This policy does not apply to mobility devices used by individuals with disabilities. NICTD will provide reasonable modifications and accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

## III. Policy

### Permitted Devices

1. Bicycles and scooters are permitted on designated bike trains in accordance with this policy.
2. NICTD permits Class 1, Class 2, and Class 3 electric bicycles as defined by Indiana law, provided the motor is rated at 750 watts or less, the bicycle has fully operable pedals, and the bicycle has not been modified to exceed its original class, assisted speed, or power rating. A throttle-equipped bicycle must not provide motor power above 20 mph.
3. There is no additional charge for transporting bicycles or scooters.
4. Bicycle and scooter spaces are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Capacity is limited to the number of available designated racks or marked storage positions. Bicycles may not be carried outside those positions unless specifically authorized by the train crew. No customer is guaranteed space.

### Prohibited Devices

1. Gas-powered bicycles and scooters.
2. Electric motorcycles, mopeds, motor-driven cycles, electric dirt bikes, mini-bikes, and similar devices.
3. Devices without fully operable pedals when required by law.
4. Devices with motors rated greater than 750 watts.

5. Devices modified to exceed their original class, speed, or power rating.
6. Devices requiring registration, licensing, or displaying a VIN plate.
7. Any powered device that cannot be safely lifted, maneuvered, secured, or stored without obstructing passengers, employees, doors, aisles, stairs, ADA-accessible areas, or emergency equipment.

**Customer Responsibilities**

1. Customers transporting bicycles or scooters must be at least 16 years of age. Customers under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.
2. Customers must be able to carry their bicycle or scooter on and off the train without assistance.
3. Customers must not use the power of an e-bike, e-scooter, or other micromobility device to propel the device onto a train or within station facilities.
4. Customers must allow other passengers, including passengers using mobility devices, to board and alight before loading or unloading bicycles or scooters.
5. Bicycles and scooters must be kept clean and free of dirt, grease, or other materials that could create a hazard or damage NICTD property.
6. Customers must remain in the vicinity of their bicycle or scooter while onboard.
7. Customers must comply with all train-crew instructions concerning the boarding, placement, securement, relocation, or removal of bicycles and scooters. Failure to comply may result in denial of boarding or removal from the train or NICTD property in accordance with NICTD's Passenger Code of Conduct.

**ADA and Operational Requirements**

1. Customers with disabilities have priority use of ADA-accessible and priority seating areas.
2. Customers transporting bicycles or scooters may be required to relocate or leave the train if ADA-accessible space is needed for a passenger with a disability. NICTD will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the customer elsewhere on the train before requiring removal.
3. Electric devices must be powered off before boarding and must remain powered off while onboard trains and within station facilities.
4. Bicycles and scooters may not block aisles, doors, stairs, ADA-accessible areas, emergency equipment, or passenger movement.
5. The use of onboard power outlets or station power sources to charge e-bikes, e-scooters, batteries, or other micromobility devices is prohibited.
6. The ADA lift may not be used to load or unload bicycles or scooters.
7. In the event of an emergency evacuation, bicycles and scooters must be left on the train and positioned clear of aisles and doors.
8. Train crews are prohibited from assisting with the boarding or deboarding of bicycles or scooters.
9. NICTD train crews may refuse transportation of, relocate, or require removal of any bicycle, scooter, e-bike, or micromobility device that:
   a. Violates this policy;
   b. Cannot be safely secured or stored;
   c. Presents a battery, fire, mechanical, or safety hazard;

d. Interferes with ADA accessibility;
e. Obstructs passengers or employees;
f. Delays train operations;
g. Risks damage to NICTD property; or
h. Creates a safety, security, or evacuation concern.

## IV. Platform Procedures

A. Riding bicycles or scooters on station platforms is prohibited.
B. Bicycles and scooters must be walked while on station platforms and within station facilities.

## V. Size and Battery Requirements

A. Bicycles and scooters may not exceed 70 inches in length and 30 inches in width.
B. Bicycle tire width may not exceed 2.50 inches. Wheel sizes must be between 26 and 29 inches, except folding bicycles that are folded before boarding and stored in accordance with this policy.
C. Bicycles, e-bikes, scooters, and any connected equipment may not exceed 55 pounds unless specifically approved by NICTD.
D. E-bikes, e-scooters, and other permitted electric micromobility devices must be certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory to the applicable standard, including UL 2849 for e-bikes, UL 2272 for personal e-mobility devices, UL 2271 for battery packs, or successor standards. Damaged, modified, swollen, leaking, smoking, overheating, exposed, aftermarket, or uncertified battery systems are prohibited.

## VI. Storage Requirements

A. Bicycles must be secured using the designated bicycle racks. The cyclist is responsible for properly securing the bicycle. Bicycles equipped with fenders are prohibited, as the fenders prevent the bicycle from being properly and securely positioned in the designated bicycle racks.
B. Foldable scooters must be folded prior to boarding. Once onboard, they must be stored in a luggage rack or positioned between the legs of a seated customer.
C. Bicycles, scooters, and connected equipment must be loaded and unloaded in a single trip without creating a hazard.
D. Non-folding scooters may accompany standing riders in center vestibules provided they remain under the rider's control and do not obstruct passenger movement or create a safety hazard.
E. Folding bicycles and folding scooters may accompany a seated customer if folded prior to boarding and stored between the customer's legs or in a luggage rack without blocking seats, aisles, doors, stairs, or ADA-accessible areas.
F. Bicycles and scooters must be stored so they do not protrude into aisles, interfere with passenger movement, or damage NICTD equipment.

## VII. Exceptions

NICTD's President/General Manager or their designee may alter this policy, on specific trains, specific lines, or systemwide, during special events and in times of exceptionally high ridership; or to address safety, security, or accessibility concerns. NICTD's President/General Manager or their designee may alter the size restrictions for bicycles and scooters to account for new bicycle and scooter models or changes to onboard capacity or operational practices. This policy does not restrict individuals with disabilities from using the power function of their mobility device when necessary for boarding or exiting, consistent with ADA requirements.

## VIII. Approval

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David Dech, President/General Manager

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Date