

**From:** Bev Powell <[powell.bevs@gmail.com](mailto:powell.bevs@gmail.com)>

**Date:** August 22, 2018 at 1:57:43 PM MDT

**To:** <[dgardner@bouldercounty.org](mailto:dgardner@bouldercounty.org)>, <[ejones@bouldercounty.org](mailto:ejones@bouldercounty.org)>, <[cdomenico@bouldercounty.org](mailto:cdomenico@bouldercounty.org)>

**Subject:** NO to E Bikes on open space trails

Dear Deb, Elise and Cindy,

I'm a hiker and cyclist and I love the serenity and the community sharing of the Open Space. When I first heard about E-Bikes, as a woman in my late sixties, I thought, That's a nice alternative for the elderly (maybe me someday!) who can't ride any more.

Then three E-bikes passed me on the sidewalk of the St. Vrain Greenway Open Space. They were going too fast for safety, they are noisy, and they spew exhaust! They are a menace to walkers, hikers, children and wildlife. And they will ruin the spirit of the outdoors and Open Space

These days people NEED EXERCISE, not a new way to ride motorized vehicles!!

**Bev Powell**  
**Longmont CO**

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<b>Name *</b>	carol & Glenn Cushman
<b>Email *</b>	<a href="mailto:cushmanr@colorado.edu">cushmanr@colorado.edu</a>
<b>Address or General Area (optional)</b>	 8495 Arapahoe Rd. Boulder United States
<b>Phone Number (optional)</b>	(303) 604-2250
<b>My Question or Feedback most closely relates to the following subject: (fill in the blank) *</b>	electric bikes at Walden
<b>Comments, Question or Feedback *</b>	Please do not allow electric bikes at Walden Ponds, which is chiefly a wildlife habitat area, not a recreation area. The trails are not commuter trails and the area already receives heavy use. Regular bikes, which are sometimes ridden off trail in this area,

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## E-bikes Comments Received Outside of Formal Public Engagement

March 5, 2018 – Aug. 22, 2018

Page 2

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are bad enough, but allowing electric vehicles will just compound the problem. Once electric bikes are allowed, it will be very hard to forbid them. Why not wait and see what happens on other, less sensitive areas, before allowing these bikes in a wildlife area?

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**Email \*** [ecerb@indra.com](mailto:ecerb@indra.com)

**Address** 

or 7955 Countryside Dr #117

**General** Niwot, CO 80503

**Area**  
(optional)

**My** e bikes

**Question**

o

### **Comments, Question or Feedback \***

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of the place of e-bikes on our area trails. While I still ride a standard bike without any electrical assistance, I can see the day when an e-bike will let me continue to ride. E-Bikes are growing in popularity as they allow people who may otherwise no longer be able to ride to continue to do so. E-Bikes are great for commuting, for allowing expanded cargo carrying, and making longer rides easier.

I live in Niwot which is a distance from town and my normal destinations. More and more I see eBikes on the LoBo trail and have had zero conflict with them. They are quiet and efficient.

I urge you to move forward with approving e-bikes on certain open space trails.

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**Name \*** Richard Lyons

**Email \*** [richard\\_lyons@comcast.net](mailto:richard_lyons@comcast.net)

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## E-bikes Comments Received Outside of Formal Public Engagement

March 5, 2018 – Aug. 22, 2018

Page 3

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### Address or General Area (optional)



1135 Purdue Dr  
Longmont, CO 80503

### My Question or Feedback most closely relates to the following subject: (fill in the blank) \*

Public hearing today 8/22/18 on use of e-bikes

### Comments, Question or Feedback \*

Regarding the hearing today on the expansive use of electronic bikes etc. on county trails: I would suggest that you limit use to the Plains trails that are also used as transportation corridors between/among population centers. Our Open Space trails are already crowded with mountain bikers, horses, and people with leashed dogs, as well as families with kiddos. Adding faster and more powerful bikes to the mix is not advisable. Please keep them on the flats and not in the mountains/foothills. Thanks!

Richard Lyons

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**From:** Ron Stewart [mailto:ron\_stewart1@aol.com]

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 21, 2018 10:19 AM

**To:** Domenico, Cindy; Gardner, Deb; Jones, Elise; Lane, Eric; Nielsen, Tina

**Subject:** E-bikes and Open Space

Commissioners and Open Space Staff:

I am sorry I may be unable to attend the E-bike hearing on the 22nd. I have some thoughts I would like to share.

First, I think it is very important to maintain the passive recreation, non-motorized vehicle provisions of the Comprehensive Plan. Open Space was always portrayed as land that would only allow non-motorized recreational uses. I think that keeping the faith with the voters means keeping Open Space non-motorized. And I personally don't support starting down a slippery slope where gradually the uses of open space become less and less like what the voters originally intended.

Second, I think that regardless of how Colorado Statutes define e-bikes, they have a motor. And for me they're motorized. Fortunately the law allows state governments to decide whether e-bikes are allowable on local trails. I don't think you should allow them on trails that are on open space.

Third, I'm not opposed to the idea of having e-bikes on some Boulder County trails like regional trails. Just not on open space trails. Which is why I think that you should pursue the disposition of land process to sever the trails that are appropriate for e-bikes from Boulder County's open space holdings and hold them rather for the broader Boulder County purpose. Because you're not transferring land to a

private owner I think the disposition could be done using GIS or similar demarcations of the location of trail corridors to accomplish the disposition. So you would have e-bikes on some county trails but not on open space trails.

Fourth, from a public input perspective I think it is better to use the disposition process because it provides an opportunity for your constituents and constituents in the future to have a public opportunity to participate in decisions about where e-bikes would be allowed. Potential trails could be posted with signage encouraging trail users to give input and you could even do visitor surveys to determine public preference. It would give the public a chance to say that some trails - perhaps regional trails are appropriate for e-bikes - and others - like foothills and back country trails - are not. This would make the process of determining where to allow e-bikes more deliberate and open to public comment.

Fifth, I don't agree that it would need to be costly to transfer trail corridors out of open space. Many of the regional trails were built with funding from the Transportation Sales Tax rather than open space funds and other funds so there would be no need to repay the open space fund for those expenditures. And I think you have considerable discretion to determine the value of the transferred land.

So please carefully consider what you will do about this question.

Ron Stewart

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**From:** sharon malloy [<mailto:smalloy@indra.com>]

**Sent:** Monday, August 20, 2018 4:49 PM

**To:** Gardner, Deb; Jones, Elise; Domenico, Cindy

**Subject:** e-bikes on open space

Dear Commissioners;

I am writing to express my opposition to allowing e-bikes on BC Open Space properties. This proposed *drastic change* to the definition and implementation of passive recreation on open space properties is concerning for many reasons. In this email I will be speaking to concerns about open space program integrity, safety, hiking enjoyment, and impacts on the land.

**Program Integrity:** Changing the definition of passive recreation on OS properties is a big deal. While I realize allowing e-bikes is only being considered for regional OS trails, I'm very concerned about the precedent this sets, and the potential that other trails/lands may be considered in the future. It is just a matter of time before the well-organized and financially invested e-bike industry and mountain bike advocates will want and apply pressure for more access to other OS trails. This is evident now as vendors are demonstrating their influence for this proposal while the vast majority of the public is unaware this is being considered. Before any change to definition and use of OS properties, there should be a massive marketing effort to notify, inform and give voice to **all** the residents of Boulder County who pay taxes for the acquisition and management of these properties. Another concern is "if E-bikes are allowed today, what tomorrow??" With the rapid development of technology, it's inevitable there will be other personal vehicles in the near future. Things like modified scooters, "mountain" Segways, even jet packs, and who knows what else are all quite possible. Therefore, it's imperative to keep open space LOW (preferably NO) TECH.

**Safety:** E-bikes are dangerous due to their weight and speed. Weighing in excess of 50 pounds, they can travel 20 MPH or even faster. Allowing e-bikes on trails is dangerous for people, wildlife and the land. I own an e-bike so I can personally attest to the fact that this bike is very heavy and moves FAST. Speed and weight make for a dangerous situation when sharing trails with hikers and wildlife. I also have found my e-bike's heaviness makes it

challenging to maneuver at stoplights and such. Jumping off quickly and controlling the bike's momentum to avoid a person, or when hitting a rock or something, is a recipe for harm.

Hiking enjoyment and land impacts : As I know you are aware, hikers and bikers already have many trail-sharing issues with enjoyment, safety and trail protection. Hikers are forced to listen for approaching bikes when there to listen to birds, wildlife or just enjoy the land and quiet. Hikers often quickly have to step off trail to avoid being injured by bikes. Stepping off trail contributes to invasive species distribution, trail erosion and plant damage. Similarly, bikers are notorious for avoiding rocks, mud etc. by riding alongside the trail on more "desirable" terrain. This damages and widens the trail. Due to the increase number of bikers this has become a serious problem. Adding e-bikes just makes the situation worse. Some trails are virtually rendered unusable for hikers. For example Antelope trail has become miserable for hikers due to bikers racing through; often many times over. Many people who are getting older and those with physical challenges with balance and slower reflexes and those with hearing challenges have quit hiking OS trails because of the pervasiveness and unpleasantness of sharing trails with bikes. My personal enjoyment is very much diminished when hiking on a shared trail because I am not only forced to listen for, and repeatedly step off trail for bikes. Few bikers indicate if they are alone or others are coming. Nor do they answer when asked because so often they are "plugged in." When I see the damage to the land with parallel trails, "go arounds" etc. obviously caused by bikes, I feel really upset and sad.

Additionally, I am concerned about the implications for lands beyond Boulder County: Boulder County policies and programming regarding open space management has been a beacon and model for the rest of region, state and the country. We must respect, preserve and protect our land. Other governing bodies will look to Boulder County as e-bikes and other technology becomes more prevalent, so factor this into your determination.

I understand and applaud how you have demonstrated your support of e-bikes as part of the multi-modal plan to reduce traffic congestion. This makes sense. Your general policy support to vendors and providing rebates of 10-30% of new purchases of these motorized vehicles has certainly helped the cause. Clearly, you have already demonstrated tremendous support to this industry. Please don't bow to their pressure to do even more. While supporting e-bikes as a general principal and providing incentives are both good things to do, allowing e-bikes on open space is not a good thing to do...

**Finally, and most importantly, if you intend to allow e-bikes on regional OS trails, you should take these lands out of the BC Open Space program and place them under general Boulder County property. Although this will require some staff time to go through the disposition process, it is the proper way to proceed. This protects the public's investment, the program's intention and the integrity of this Board and staff. It is the cleanest and most definitive way of protecting other open space properties from being compromised in the future.**

I know you all care tremendously about our open space properties and I very much appreciate your good hearts and very good work. I'm confident you will do the right thing.

Sincerely,  
shari malloy  
2113 Rangeview Lane  
Longmont CO 80501

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**From:** Jaymi Devans [<mailto:jaymi@mountainhands.com>]

**Sent:** Monday, August 20, 2018 12:44 PM

**To:** Gardner, Deb; Jones, Elise; Domenico, Cindy

**Subject:** No E-Bikes on Open Space

Hello, regarding E-Bikes on Open Space:

Could you please support the people that WALK on these paths. Many that use these paths are elderly, and/or have disabilities, and/or have children. We need these paths to be safe and open.

Putting E-Bikes on these paths is like putting a motorcycle on these paths - and you can't hear them! It is very dangerous for the walkers.

No E-Bikes. Thank you for your consideration.

Warm regards,

Jaymi Devans, FNP, RN, MT

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**From:** [alicejweir@aol.com](mailto:alicejweir@aol.com)

**Sent:** Sunday, August 19, 2018 3:13 PM

**To:** Gardner, Deb; Jones, Elise; Domenico, Cindy

**Subject:** e-bikes and open space trails

Ms. Gardner, Ms. Jones, and Ms. Dominico,

I am writing to voice my opinion AGAINST allowing e-bikes on Boulder's Open Space trails. For over 50 years, Boulderites have prioritized the safe-keeping of our greenbelts. The Open Space program has been proclaimed by one of its founders to be, "The most popular program we've ever had." Fifty years from now, the current board of BOCC will be remembered as having faced a challenge to the health of the ecosystems that surround us, and to Boulder's revered and remarkable way of life. Will your vote be one that preserves, or one that destroys these precious lands?

Our setting is one of the most stunning the country. Ready access to the beauty and serenity of an uncompromised natural world is one of the biggest reasons for living here. The presence of motorized vehicles of any kind on our open space trails—e-bikes included—would severely damage and diminish the pristine environment of which we, the fortunate few have been granted stewardship.

I urge you to protect our open space, for now and for generations to come!

Sincerely,

Alice Weir  
(resident)

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**From:** Linda Palmer and Ken DeBow [mailto:debowpalmer@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Sunday, August 19, 2018 11:35 AM

**To:** Boulder County Board of Commissioners

**Subject:** E-bikes on open space trails.

Boulder County Commissioners, please add us to your list of residents who strongly oppose allowing e-bikes on county open space trails. Motorized vehicles would do damage to trails, be a danger to walkers, damage vegetation, and frighten and often eliminate wildlife, and end the peace one looks for by walking on quiet mountain trails. E-bikes are good for city streets, and we should encourage them, but they are terrible for open space trails and we should ban their use on those trails.

## E-bikes Comments Received Outside of Formal Public Engagement

March 5, 2018 – Aug. 22, 2018

Page 7

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Citizens and 76 year old hikers who won't deal with e-bikes on open space trails,  
Linda Palmer and Ken DeBow  
1140 Oakdale Place  
Boulder, CO 80304

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From: Karen Phillips [mailto:kkaphill@aol.com]  
Sent: Saturday, August 18, 2018 8:26 PM  
To: Boulder County Board of Commissioners  
Subject: E-bikes

please no to ebikes on open space trails. It's hard enough to have bikes on the trail. Accidents waiting to happen. I tend to freeze when I hear a bike approaching. How can you enjoy if you can hear ebikes  
Sincerely,  
Karen Phillips  
640 Gooseberry Dr #1002  
Longmont,CO 80503

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**Name \*** Edie Stevens

**Email \*** [ediest1@me.com](mailto:ediest1@me.com)

**Address**   
**or** 2059 Hardscrabble Drive  
**General** Boulder, CO 80305  
**Area** United States  
**(optional)**

**My** E-bikes on Open Space  
**Question**

### Comments, Question or Feedback \*

It is my understanding that you are considering allowing E-bikes on Open Space trails. While I would support allowing those bikes, when in use by persons with disabilities, on concrete or asphalt trails, I vehemently oppose allowing .them access on any other trails in the County's Open Space System, Ordinary mountain bikes have forced hikers off trails in both City and County Open Space; electric bikes would turn trails into highways.

Please be selective in allowing motorized vehicles on Open Space. Limit their use to persons with certifiable disabilities and to hardened trails.

You have a moral and legal obligation to protect our natural environment in perpetuity.

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**From:** . [mailto:gpedrow@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 02, 2018 1:46 PM

**To:** Boulder County Board of Commissioners

**Cc:** Krezek, Michelle; smalloy@indra.com; davispsred@gmail.com; Lane, Eric; Frye, Renata; jbsdad88@comcast.net; jdcinc1@prodigy.net; LangeRoger1941@gmail.com; ron\_stewart1@aol.com; richandlana@comcast.net; wallygrant@msn.com; richard\_lyons@comcast.net; tim.waters@comcast.net; beranson22@q.com; Donna.stockton@colorado.EDU; ericjmeyer@earthlink.net; lee.springer83@gmail.com; sclyne2@msn.com; sybil\_jane@msn.com; tom.carolyn.phillips@msn.com; john.wolfe66@gmail.com; jordan2x@msn.com; Ruth.Ellis11@gmail.com

**Subject:** e-bikes on open space rrails

Commissioners Jones, Domenico and Gardner:

I am a member of POSAC but I am not representing that body with these personal remarks regarding your upcoming August meeting at which you will consider e-bikes on regional open space trails.

I believe the core issue you need to consider when deciding this matter is how best to encourage commuting using e-bikes while preserving the public trust regarding passive recreation uses on open space property. The Board has already made it clear that you support e-bikes as part of a multi-modal plan to reduce traffic congestion. Your position was made clear when you approved discounts of 10-33% to new purchasers of these motorized vehicles. If you follow your staff's recommendation in August, you will decide to move motorized vehicles onto regional open space trails without an adequate community engagement process that informs residents that you are drastically changing the definition of passive recreation on open space properties. This drastic change in direction regarding the prohibition of motorized vehicles on open space trails comes less than a year after the most recent update of the Boulder County Parks and Open Space Rules and Regulations. In that update, bicycles were still defined as being human powered wheeled vehicles.

Staff has provided a couple of justifications for why the Board can legally allow motorized bikes on regional open space trails. The first justification is because the state law now excludes electric assist bikes from the definition of motorized vehicles. Even though a majority of State Legislators do not see a difference between human powered and motorized wheeled vehicles, they allowed you, the local governing body, to keep the traditional definition if you chose to do so. I need to ask, since when does the State Legislature playing games with the definition of motorized vehicle win the day over Boulder County residents who have repeatedly voted to authorize dedicated taxes to acquire open space with the clear understanding that passive recreation means **no** motorized vehicles?

The second justification is based on the precedent of allowing electric motors on Lagerman Reservoir. Lagerman Reservoir was not acquired with dedicated open space tax resources. Therefore, small electric motors on boats on Lagerman Reservoir has no relevance to e-bikes on open space trails purchased with open space tax resources.

I am not urging you to prohibit e-bikes on regional trails. They can be a valuable part of the effort to relieve traffic congestion. I **am urging** you to protect the integrity of the open space program and maintain the trust of the thousands of residents who repeatedly voted yes on open space tax initiatives.

I believe you can do this by removing appropriate regional trails from open space. E-bikes are a logical part of a multi-modal transportation plan. You can use transportation dollars to

purchase the right-of-way for regional trails on which e-bikes will be allowed and make these trails part of the transportation system. Whenever CDOT needs open space right-of-way for road improvements, it purchases the right-of-way. By substituting Boulder County Transportation for CDOT in the previous sentence, you have a simple solution for preserving public trust while promoting e-bikes as part of the solution to traffic congestion.

If you are inclined to accept the staff recommendation on this matter, I would like to know how you see limiting e-bikes to only regional trails on open space properties. Or, should we assume this is the first step toward allowing motorized vehicles throughout our Boulder County open spaces? I believe this would be a shameful legacy to leave.

Please call me at 720-412-6208 if you have any questions.

Gordon L. Pedrow

2639 Falcon Dr.

Longmont 80503

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**From:** Ruby [mailto:rubala@indra.com]

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 14, 2018 11:53 AM

**To:** Boulder County Board of Commissioners

**Subject:** No E-bikes on open space trails

Hello Commissioners,

I do not support allowing E-bikes on open space trails or properties. Please keep open space policy as is without E-bikes.

Ruby Bowman

1512 Lefthand Drive

Longmont, CO 80501

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**From:** Karl Hanzel [mailto:karl@khaotik.org]

**Sent:** Saturday, August 11, 2018 5:51 PM

**To:** Boulder County Board of Commissioners

**Subject:** i support e- bikes on trails

I support allowing electric bikes on County trails. They pose no more hazard than conventional bikes, so long as ridden responsibly.

Karl

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**From:** Will Toor [mailto:wtoor@swenergy.org]

**Sent:** Friday, August 10, 2018 5:33 PM

**To:** Boulder County Board of Commissioners

**Subject:** Spam: Input re: e-bikes on trails

I'd like to provide the following input prior to the August 22 hearing. Overall, I think the staff recommendation makes sense, steering e-bikes towards those trails that serve more of a transportation connection purpose. However, there are 2 specific trails that are proposed to ban e-bikes, but which I believe do serve a regional connections purpose.

First is the Boulder Canyon trail. While I understand the decision to exclude e-bikes from the foothills trails, this one really is different. It is not a mountain bike trail or single track, and often used by people riding up to Gold Hill or the Peak to Peak. This is the only safe way to ride up Boulder Canyon to 4 mile Canyon. I would urge you to designate this one as on to e-bikes.

The other is Mayhoffer Singletree. I have often visited friends in Louisville by riding Mayhoffer Singletree over to join the Coal Creek Trail. It is really the only reasonable way to access the Coal Creek Trail from Boulder. While this one is much more of a single track experience than the Boulder Creek Trail, it does have an important role in regional connectivity.

-Will

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**From:** Dave Husted [<mailto:dave.husted@sclhealth.org>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 07, 2018 1:00 PM  
**To:** Nielsen, Tina  
**Subject:** eBike Changes

Hi Tina,

I just read some of the updates on ebiking in Boulder County and the upcoming vote on August 22nd. I am disappointed that the recommendation is going forward to not allow ebikes on trails leading from Coalton Trailhead. You may recall our exchange earlier this year where you provided verification that I could ride my eMTB on trails leading from the Coalton Trailhead, due to the OPDMD exception. I am curious, **does that still apply to people like me with physical limitations? i.e. would I still be able to ride the trails leading from the Coalton Trailhead?**

This is the route (link below) I usually ride when waiting to avoid traffic back to Littleton..

[Link to ride animation](#)

### **Dave Husted**

Vice President, Enterprise Program Management Office (EPMO), SCL Health  
500 Eldorado Boulevard, Building 4, Suite 4300

Broomfield, CO 80021

P: 303.813.5085

M: 303.725.0841

[dave.husted@sclhs.net](mailto:dave.husted@sclhs.net)

[www.sclhealthsystem.org](http://www.sclhealthsystem.org)

[BIO](#)

**From:** Ashley Jackson [mailto:ashleyjackson@me.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 01, 2018 10:27 AM

**To:** Boulder County Board of Commissioners

**Subject:** Please Support E Bikes

Hey Commissioners

Please support E Bikes on Regional Trails on Aug 22. I would love to bike to work from Longmont to Boulder but it is slightly too far for me to manage daily and get to work on time. With an electric assist bike, I would be able to take another car off the diagonal highway and bike to work!

Thank you!

Ashley Jackson

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From: Kim Lane [mailto:kimgem857@gmail.com]

Sent: Saturday, June 23, 2018 7:56 AM

To: Nielsen, Tina

Subject: E-Bikes on trails

I am totally against allowing E-Bikes on the Twin Lakes (west lake) and Pella Crossing Trails. The last thing we need are the E-Bikes whizzing by people and dogs @ 20mph. Looks like there will be plenty of other trails for them to ride on. I agree to not allow them on the Boulder Canyon Trail and all the foothill and mountain trails. Thank You.

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**From:** Bruce H Vaughn [mailto:[Bruce.Vaughn@colorado.edu](mailto:Bruce.Vaughn@colorado.edu)]

**Sent:** Wednesday, June 20, 2018 10:15 AM

**To:** Boulder County POS Info

**Subject:** E-Bike prohibition on Boulder Canyon trail

Greetings Parks and Open Space Folks,

I have been out of town for field work in Greenland for a month and may have missed the time for public input on the potential E-Bike prohibition on Boulder Canyon trail. I am compelled to speak up about the staff recommendation for E-Bike prohibition on Boulder Canyon trail. While I support in general the restriction of E-bikes on many of the county's single track trails and places that are more geared towards recreational use, Boulder Canyon has been wrongly included in this potential E-Bike prohibition .

I must emphatically disagree with the Boulder Canyon trail being thrown in the same category. This is a major commuting route and E-bike use should be allowed. IF we are serious about getting more people out of their cars, limiting E-bikes on the major commuting routes is absurd. I live near the end of the Boulder Canyon trail, and have used the trail for 3 decades to commute by bicycle to work at CU east campus. As I grow older, I find that I am less physically capable and the E-bike really helps keep me out of my car. If you were successful in E-Bike

prohibition on Boulder Canyon trail, this would essentially bring an end to my ability to commute by bicycle. I see that over 55% of your survey respondents oppose such a prohibition on the Boulder Canyon trail (although it was not a large total number of respondents). I suspect that when taxpayers of Boulder county are presented with the facts of this wide, multi-use path and its importance to commuting, they would agree to eliminate it from consideration in the E-bike bans. I hope that you also can see the wisdom in allowing E-bikes on the Boulder Canyon trail.

Thank you,

Bruce H. Vaughn  
Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research  
UCB 450 University of Colorado  
Boulder, CO 80309  
<https://instaar.colorado.edu/people/bruce-h-vaughn/>  
303-492-7985 voice  
303-492-5495 lab  
email: [bruce.vaughn@colorado.edu](mailto:bruce.vaughn@colorado.edu)  
Shipping:  
INSTAAR - Bruce Vaughn  
4001 Discovery Drive  
Boulder, CO 80303

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From: Craig Neering [<mailto:kinetic8@gmail.com>]  
Sent: Tuesday, June 05, 2018 10:19 PM  
To: Nielsen, Tina  
Subject: ebikes

Hi Tina,

I'm looking to buy an eMTB mostly as a commuter to go to work, using the Coal Creek Trail between Superior and Lafayette. I was curious about your opinion of whether ebikes will continue to be allowed on Coal Creek Trail. I'm really close to spending a great deal of money (for me) and would hate to buy one if the general consensus was they will be banned.

I really appreciate any insight you can provide. It seems to be a controversial topic but have been wondering what the overall feel has been lately.

Thanks,  
Craig Neering

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**From:** Hoppe, Adam [ahoppe@bouldercounty.org](mailto:ahoppe@bouldercounty.org)  
**Sent:** Monday, June 04, 2018 4:26 PM  
**To:** Hyde-Wright, Alexander  
**Cc:** Nielsen, Tina  
**Subject:** Jeffco and Bike Only Trails

Alex,

Just thought I would pass this along if you were not aware. Just a link I got from IMBA about some popular Jeffco trails - with so many hiker only trails, this is not a bad idea!

Tina,

Only passing along to you as an FYI since I saw you as a contact for the county trail E-bike recommendations for BoCo and wasn't sure if BoCo had tossed around this idea as well...

**Adam Hoppe**

**Boulder County Assessor's Office/GIS Dept.**

<https://www.jeffco.us/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=494>

Posted on: June 4, 2018

## **Jefferson County Open Space Announces Designated Use Trails**

Jefferson County Open Space (JCOS) will be conducting a one-year pilot program to evaluate the challenges and benefits associated with designated use trails. As part of this program, two trail segments in the JCOS system will be designated as bike only. This pilot program will begin in the summer of 2018 and last approximately one year. During this time, JCOS will be collecting data, conducting visitor surveys, and soliciting feedback on the visitor experience in these areas. The pilot program will help inform the approach to management of designated use and multi-use trails.

### **White Ranch Park**

On June 18, 2018, a segment of the Longhorn Trail at White Ranch Park will be designated as a bike only, and one way. This portion is 0.9 miles; see map. JCOS will be working with the mountain bike community on sustainable solutions for trail maintenance on this trail.

### **Matthews/Winters Park**

In August 2018, the southernmost section of the Dakota Ridge Trail at Matthews/Winters Park will be designated as bike only. This portion is 0.8 miles. Traveling the trail in a clockwise direction will be recommended.

The 2011 Jeffco Citizen Survey reflected that 58% of respondents were in favor of designating trails for a single type of use.

The 2014-2019 JCOS Master Plan identifies the objective to evaluate different management types on existing trails. JCOS will implement the pilot program and analyze changes in trail surface, changes in incidents rates on these segments, compliance with the designation, and visitor response.

*Jeffco Open Space was founded as a land conservation organization in 1972. Our mission is to preserve open space and parkland, protect park and natural resources, and provide healthy, nature-based experiences. Funded with a one-half of one percent sales tax, our organization contributes to city and park district projects, has preserved more than 54,000 acres, and manages 28 open space parks and more than 252 miles of trails in Jefferson County, Colorado.*

**From:** jbaconlpc@aol.com [mailto:jbaconlpc@aol.com]

**Sent:** Thursday, May 31, 2018 3:22 PM

**To:** Nielsen, Tina

**Subject:** E-bike trial

The issue regarding e-bikes on trails is a classic case of age discrimination. Aging is NOT a disability; it is natural part of human life. It will be a part of everyone's life. These are the obvious facts:

- 1) Most purchasers of e-bikes are over the age of 50.
- 2) E-bikes are an excellent way for aging humans to get exercise and be in the outdoors, which is essential for our health. It has been essential for MY health.
- 3) E-bikes are noiseless and do not pollute. They go no faster than a manual bike racing down the bike path. They will not disturb plants or wildlife any more than regular bicycles.
- 4) Boulder provided a discount for people to purchase e-bikes and now takes away our ability to ride them as we please.
- 4) Manual bicyclists have no rules WHATSOEVER that they need to follow. They are not required to be licensed. THEY are not banned from certain areas for any behavior, including:
  - a) Riding on trails where bikes are not allowed (as a hiker, I know this all too well)
  - b) Riding too fast for conditions
  - c) Intimidating pedestrians and other cyclists with speed and abusive language
  - d) Riding without lights at night.
  - e) Riding without a helmet.
  - f) Riding while listening to headphones.
  - g) Riding while talking on the phone.
  - h) Riding while texting.
  - i) Riding with no hands.
  - j) Riding with a dog on a leash.
  - k) Riding while carrying a pizza in one hand.
  - l) Riding on sidewalks
  - m) Riding through stop signs
  - n) Riding while taking up a full lane of traffic on roads not designated for this.
  - o) Riding while drunk.

AND YET I, 70 YEARS OLD, AM NOT ALLOWED TO RIDE AN E-BIKE ON TRAILS?

- 5) We have:
  - a) drivers over 90 yrs old driving cars
  - b) driving while eating
  - c) driving while talking on the phone
  - d) driving while texting
  - e) driving while drunk.

These people get no consequence until they cause an accident.

AND YET I, 70 YEARS OLD, AM NOT ALLOWED TO RIDE AN E-BIKE ON TRAILS?

The only reason that I can think of for this obvious discrimination against e-bikes is that younger people don't want older people taking up what they consider to be their space. You may not understand that you are supporting this, but you are.

We who have e-bikes must be allowed on ANY trail that regular bikes are allowed on. No one who has not actually ridden an e-bike should have any say in where e-bikes are allowed.

Any "trial" that takes place should include e-bikes on all trails. And until there are enforceable rules for manual bikes and drivers, there should be NO rules for e-bikes and no enforcement of any rules.

E-bikes Comments Received Outside of Formal Public Engagement

March 5, 2018 – Aug. 22, 2018

Page 15

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The Board has not yet had a meeting where e-bike riders can speak directly to commissioners in a structured forum. We have a right to that.

Thank you for your time.

Jeri Bacon

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**From:** Debra Rahm [mailto:debra.rahm@me.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 23, 2018 7:43 AM

**To:** Nielsen, Tina

**Subject:** Bike paths in Boulder

I read the news release but didn't see what paths in and around Boulder are available for class 1 ebikes. These bikes are heavy so going to the east county plains to ride is problematic. May I ride on the south boulder creek trail and it's continuation near Stazio ball fields? I am 70 and the ebike allows me to ride with strong riders.

Thanks,

Deb

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**From:** Bryan Ganzel [mailto:bryan.ganzel@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 22, 2018 9:34 PM

**To:** Nielsen, Tina

**Subject:** BoCo EBike position

Hi Tina,

I've read your position on e-bikes, and I'm curious why you didn't include access on the Boulder Canyon Creek Path when that trail's character matches many of the trails you've opened up to motorized bikes.

Thanks!

Bryan Ganzel

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**From:** raul.saucedo@gmail.com [mailto:raul.saucedo@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** Raul Saucedo

**Sent:** Monday, May 21, 2018 8:43 PM

**To:** Nielsen, Tina

**Subject:** Re: County Releases DRAFT e-bike recommendation

Hello,

Thank you for this. Small clarificatory follow-up, if you don't mind: is the "Boulder Canyon Trail" the same as (or overlaps) the Boulder Creek Path? I suspect not, since my understanding is that the latter is within city rather than county jurisdiction. But I thought I'd check.

Thank you,

RS

**From:** Bobo [mailto:inurseguy@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 02, 2018 6:52 PM

**To:** Nielsen, Tina

**Subject:** Re: Class I ebikes

Thanks for your reply Tina. I appreciate having the facts.

I'm 68 years old and have biked since I was about 8 years old, and the electric assist on my bicycle will add years to my biking life so I am very invested in having trail access.

Best,

Bob

On May 2, 2018, at 4:24 PM, Nielsen, Tina <[tnielsen@bouldercounty.org](mailto:tnielsen@bouldercounty.org)> wrote:

Hi Bob,

Thanks for your question—I should have provided a bit more background. Boulder County Parks and Open Space was founded in 1975 on the idea of preserving wildlife habitat, agriculture, urban shaping, and providing passive recreation. Passive recreation is defined as non-motorized in the Boulder County Comprehensive Plan. (Similarly in the City of Boulder, one of the purposes outlined in the Open Space and Mountain Parks Charter is passive recreation.)

We are currently evaluating where to allow e-bikes now due to the state law that passed last year. The legislation changed the designation of e-bikes such that they are no longer classified as motorized vehicles, requires them to be labelled as to Class, and provides local jurisdictions the option to not allow them. You can read up on all the details on our [e-bikes web page](#).

Feel free to reach out if you have further questions.

Cheers,

**Tina Nielsen** | *Special Projects Manager*

Boulder County Parks and Open Space

(303) 678-6279 | [tnielsen@bouldercounty.org](mailto:tnielsen@bouldercounty.org)

[BoulderCountyOpenSpace.org](http://BoulderCountyOpenSpace.org)

**From:** Bob Barron [mailto:inurseguy@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 02, 2018 10:02 AM

**To:** Nielsen, Tina

**Subject:** Re: Class I ebikes

Thanks for your reply Tina. I have asked numerous sources how ebikes came to be not allowed on the trails and have yet to receive a clear answer. Can you provide one?

I've been to Europe twice in the last 6 months and they are hugely popular there and I suspect will be here, eventually.

Bob

On Wed, May 2, 2018 at 8:21 AM, Nielsen, Tina <[tnielsen@bouldercounty.org](mailto:tnielsen@bouldercounty.org)> wrote:  
Hi Bob,

Thanks for contacting us. Boulder County is in the process of crafting a recommendation for if and where to allow e-bikes on county trails. (Because we do not allow motorized uses, e-bikes are not currently allowed on any of our trails.) We will be hosting an open house in June to get input from people like you on our recommendation, then the plan is to take it to our advisory board and commissioners for approval in July.

Details for the open house have not yet been finalized. Keep an eye on our [e-bike web](#) page for more information, and feel free to reach out if you have additional questions.

Cheers,

**Tina Nielsen** | *Special Projects Manager*  
Boulder County Parks and Open Space  
(303) 678-6279 | [tnielsen@bouldercounty.org](mailto:tnielsen@bouldercounty.org)  
[BoulderCountyOpenSpace.org](http://BoulderCountyOpenSpace.org)

**From:** Bob Barron [mailto:[inurseguy@gmail.com](mailto:inurseguy@gmail.com)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 01, 2018 6:13 PM  
**To:** Nielsen, Tina  
**Subject:** Class I ebikes

Hi Tina: I just purchased a Class I mountain bike and live in Boulder county. I've reviewed several publications on where my ebike is allowed on trails but still feel confused. Can you clarify for me which trails allow my bike?

At 68 years old, being able to continue mountain biking with reduced knee pain is a great thing.

Best,

Bob Barron

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**From:** Dave Husted [mailto:[dave.husted@outlook.com](mailto:dave.husted@outlook.com)]  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 19, 2018 12:28 PM  
**To:** Nielsen, Tina  
**Subject:** e-Bike use on Boulder County Open Space

Hi Tina,

My name is Dave Husted and I am a resident of Ken Caryl Ranch in SW Littleton, but commute daily up to Broomfield to the Oracle building for work. I have been an avid mountain biker

since I bought my first beast of a mountain bike in 1988. Since turning 45 in 2013, I have had a heart attack (despite being in very good shape), and 12 heart procedures and finished my 5<sup>th</sup> heart surgery in January of this year. My cardiologist / electrophysiologist knows of my joy for mountain biking. Through our combined research we were able to come up with a solution that minimizes my risk of further damaging my heart and still allows me to ride on my beloved trails on the front range. That solution is an e-MTB or electric mountain bike.

My doctor recommends that I keep my heart rate under 130 bpm while exercising. The use of an electric assist MTB allows for this. I wear two heart monitors (wrist and chest strap) to measure my heart rate. I have an alarm set to notify me if my rate goes above 130 bpm. My neighborhood (Ken Caryl Ranch) KCR has put in a very progressive approach to e-bikes. KCR has established that an e-bike is classified as an OPDMD for those with health conditions that warrant its use. With this interpretation KCR allows registered e-bikes on the entirety of our 35+ miles of trails with effectively a “note from your doctor”. The “note from your doctor” is literally a signed application for a [Colorado Department of Revenue Division of Motor Vehicles Parking Privileges Application form DR 2219](#). In filling out this form and receiving an education from our KCR Ranger Staff you get a placard that you affix to your bike and can ride ALL the trails. This has been amazing for me. I am actually getting in better shape and feel healthier than I have in years.

Based on some research I have been doing on e-biking in Boulder county it seems that, per the webpage “[E-Bikes on Open Space](#)” under the heading “Individuals with Mobility Disabilities” the Boulder County interpretation of OPDMD’s also includes e-bikes. Thus a rider with a mobility disability (like I have) could use an e-bike as an OPDMD on open space trails that are open to OPDMD’s. I am interested in riding my e-bike on some trails near the Oracle campus in Broomfield. I would like to do this during lunch or times when I am waiting for the traffic to clear. The trails I am particularly interested are those that leave from the Coalton Trailhead. Per the webpage “[Accessibility on Open Space](#)”, it appears that this is allowed, under the heading “All OPDMDs Allowed”

Desiring to be an ambassador for e-biking in Colorado I would rather receive permission than fake ignorance on whether or not an e-bike is allowed on a certain trail.

So, my question to you is; if I am displaying my placard (yes it literally looks like a handicapped placard you see hanging from a car mirror) could I ride on the trails leaving the Coalton Trailhead as indicated by the webpage referenced above?

I know this is a long lead to a short question, but I also understand you are doing data discovery on e-bikes and thought the longer explanation could give you some context on “who” some of the riders of e-bikes are.

Thanks for your attention on this and I look forward to hearing from you.

Best,  
Dave Husted

VP, Enterprise Program Management Office  
SCL Health  
(m)303-725-0841

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**From:** Tim Foster [mailto:tim@semitorr.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 29, 2018 2:49 PM  
**To:** Nielsen, Tina  
**Subject:** E-Bikes on Trails

Hi Tina

Some of us at my office have a question on E-Bike regulations.

Some of us ride the LOBO path and are older and want to use our E-bikes but we know it is prohibited. But we do not even engage or electric assist on that trail. We only use electrical assist in other areas where we run into steep hills like on 55<sup>th</sup> street near Boulder Reservoir.

So if we do not engage or electrical assist and just pedal can we take our E-Bikes on these prohibited paths? For some of us these are the only bikes we have and this is very limiting to us.

So is it an E-Bike when we are not using the E-Assist?

Thanks

Tim

Tim Foster



2015 Ionsphere St.  
Suite 203  
Longmont, CO 80504

Mobile: 303-775-4994  
Office: 303-926-2666 X2  
Email: [tim@semitorr.com](mailto:tim@semitorr.com)  
[www.semitorr.com](http://www.semitorr.com)

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From: Jane Spencer [mailto:[lizziejane@axint.net](mailto:lizziejane@axint.net)]  
Sent: Tuesday, March 27, 2018 12:52 PM  
To: Nielsen, Tina  
Subject: E bike confusion

Hi Tina,

I have just been reading the classifications of E bikes and where they are permitted in Boulder County. My confusion stems from how I use my e bike. Most of the time, I ride my bike with the power off but due to a shoulder injury, on inclines I turn on the pedal assist until I get to the top of the hill. This means that 98% of my time on the bike, I am not using electrical power on the bike. As my bike is fairly light-weight (45 pounds), it more closely resembles a non-motorized bike than many e bikes which are far heavier.

When I do a circuit of Boulder, there are two sections that are on Open Space. Since, both sections are quite flat, I don't need the motor on to transverse them. If I am riding with my motor off, is my bike still considered an e bike?

Or is this a question that has yet to be settled?

Thanks for your time and attention,

Jane Spencer

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**From:** Suzanne Ancy [mailto:suzanneancy@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Monday, March 05, 2018 5:22 AM

**To:** Nielsen, Tina

**Cc:** 'Suzanne Ancy'

**Subject:** E bikes on Boulder Trails

Ms. Nielsen,

I was paralyzed in most of my muscles in 2002 as a passenger in a fatal car wreck. It has taken me years to recover to where I am now and I have muscle weakness in my legs so it makes it hard to ride a bike very far and up even slight inclines without an e-bike. Having an e-bike gave me my life back so that I can run errands in town with my basket, go from Boulder to Niwot on the Lobo trail, etc. which I could not do before. When a person has the injuries like I have had, you are limited in what you can do for exercise and fun. Please allow us to ride e-bikes on the trails with a speed limit for all of us. My bike is easy to brake and very safe with others on the trails.

I have been riding an e-bike for 2 years and love it. My bike only goes to 22 miles an hour and I normally bike between 8-16 miles an hour. The non e-bike cyclists whizz past me going much, much faster than me (even at 30 miles per hour). I don't go up the steep mountain trails as going back down fast scares me.

Thank you for your time

Suzanne Ancy

3360 4<sup>th</sup> Street

Boulder, CO 80304

323 899 2555

[suzanneancy@gmail.com](mailto:suzanneancy@gmail.com)

