

Open Spaces Rules and Regulations: Proposed Approaches to Bike Use on Trails

For BOCC Consideration on November 18, 2024

Option 1: No changes to existing rules and regulations

Considerations:

- 1.) There is no mention of bikes in OS' 1996 rules and regulations
- 2.) Making no changes effectively means all forms of mobility (apart from vehicles) may operate on OS properties

Option 2: No changes to existing rules and regulations BUT authorize OS to develop specific rules and regulations for specific areas (ie DVRP Bike Park)

Considerations:

- 1.) There is no mention of bikes in OS' 1996 rules and regulations
- 2.) Making no changes effectively means all forms of mobility (apart from vehicles) may operate on OS properties
- 3.) Grants ability to specifically develop DVRP Bike Park Rules to ensure safety of users

Option 3: Initial proposal (reviewed by BOCC on 10/8 – see v6)

Considerations:

- 1.) Authorizes bikes, including pedal-assist electric bikes, to be used on OS roads, parking lots, trails and pathways
- 2.) Does not include mobility devices that use a throttle

Option 4: Expand language to allow for all electrified scooters, e-bikes and other electrified mobility devices (see v7)

Considerations:

- 1.) Allows for more than pedal-assist electric bikes
- 2.) Includes mobility criteria to limit devices that would be too wide, noisy and heavy on trails

Option 3: Initial proposal (reviewed by BOCC on 10/8 – see v6)

Considerations:

- 1.) Authorizes bikes, including pedal-assist electric bikes, to be used on OS roads, parking lots, trails and pathways
- 2.) Does not include mobility devices that use a throttle

Section 5: Wheeled Devices

- A. It shall be unlawful to operate any GAS POWERED motorized vehicleS OR DEVICES AND SIMILAR ELECTRIC VEHICLES OR DEVICES ON ~~within Arapahoe County Open Space PROPERTIES Parks or Recreational Facilities,~~ except ON PUBLIC ROADWAYS AND PARKING LOTS AS ALLOWED BY STATE LAW, AND AS DESIGNATED on ~~designated lakes, roads, trails and PATHWAYS. parking lots. Unless otherwise posted, authorized vehicles shall not be operated in excess of 25 miles per hour.~~ EMERGENCY, PATROL, AND MAINTENANCE VEHICLES ARE SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDED FROM THIS PROHIBITION.
- B. IT IS LAWFUL TO RIDE BICYCLES, INCLUDING **PEDAL ASSISTED ELECTRIC BIKES**, ON ROADS, PARKING LOTS, TRAILS, AND PATHWAYS, EXCEPT AS DESIGNATED OR POSTED.
- C. IT IS LAWFUL TO UTILIZE MOBILITY ASSISTIVE EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING ALL-TERRAIN WHEELCHAIRS, ATTACHMENTS FOR MANUAL WHEELCHAIRS, AND OTHER SIMILAR DEVICES ON ROADS, PARKING LOTS, TRAILS, AND PATHWAYS, EXCEPT AS DESIGNATED OR POSTED.
- D. IT IS LAWFUL TO RIDE BY HORSEBACK ON ROADS, PARKING LOTS, TRAILS, AND PATHWAYS, EXCEPT AS DESIGNATED OR POSTED.
- E. UNLESS OTHERWISE POSTED, SPEED LIMITS ON TRAILS AND PATHWAYS ARE **FIFTEEN (15) MILES PER HOUR**. THE SPEED LIMIT IS REDUCED TO WHAT IS REASONABLE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHEN THERE IS HEAVY TRAFFIC, AT-GRADE INTERSECTIONS WITH STREETS, INCLEMENT WEATHER, DARKNESS, OR CONDITIONS WARRANT SLOWER SPEEDS.
- F. UNLESS OTHERWISE POSTED, SPEED LIMITS ON OPEN SPACES ROADS ARE TWENTY (20) MILES PER HOUR. THE SPEED LIMIT IS REDUCED TO WHAT IS REASONABLE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHEN THERE IS HEAVY TRAFFIC, AT-GRADE INTERSECTIONS WITH STREETS, INCLEMENT WEATHER, DARKNESS, OR CONDITIONS WARRANT SLOWER SPEEDS.
- G. WHEELED DEVICES MUST STAY ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE TRAIL OR PATHWAY, EXCEPT WHEN PASSING, AND MUST NOT BLOCK OR IMPEDE INDIVIDUALS TRAVELING IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION. WHEN PASSING FROM ANY DIRECTION ON OPEN SPACE PROPERTIES, ALL VISITORS MUST GIVE AN **AUDIBLE SIGNAL AND YIELD THE RIGHT-OF-WAY** TO EQUESTRIANS, PEDESTRIANS, BICYCLISTS, MOBILITY ASSISTIVE EQUIPMENT AND OTHER WHEELED DEVICES.

Option 4: Expand language to allow for all electrified scooters, e-bikes and other electrified mobility devices (see v7)

Considerations:

- 1.) Allows for more than pedal-assist electric bikes
- 2.) Includes mobility criteria to limit devices that would be too wide, noisy and heavy on trails

Section 5: Wheeled Devices

- A. It shall be unlawful to operate any GAS POWERED motorized vehicleS OR DEVICES AND SIMILAR ELECTRIC VEHICLES OR DEVICES ON ~~within Arapahoe County Open Space PROPERTIES Parks or Recreational Facilities,~~ except ON PUBLIC ROADWAYS AND PARKING LOTS AS ALLOWED BY STATE LAW, AND AS DESIGNATED on ~~designated lakes, roads, trails and PATHWAYS. parking lots. Unless otherwise posted,~~ authorized vehicles shall not be operated in excess of 25 miles per hour. EMERGENCY, PATROL, AND MAINTENANCE VEHICLES ARE SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDED FROM THIS PROHIBITION.
- B. IT IS LAWFUL TO RIDE **ELECTRIC MICROMOBILITY DEVICES, ELECTRIC PERSONAL ASSISTIVE MOBILITY DEVICES** , AND BICYCLES, INCLUDING PEDAL ASSISTED ELECTRIC BIKES, ON ROADS, PARKING LOTS, TRAILS, AND PATHWAYS EXCEEDING 6 FEET, EXCEPT AS DESIGNATED OR POSTED.
- C. IT IS LAWFUL TO UTILIZE ELECTRIC MICROMOBILITY DEVICES, ELECTRIC PERSONAL ASSISTIVE MOBILITY DEVICES, INCLUDING ALL-TERRAIN WHEELCHAIRS, ATTACHMENTS FOR MANUAL WHEELCHAIRS, AND OTHER SIMILAR DEVICES ON ROADS, PARKING LOTS, TRAILS, AND PATHWAYS EXCEEDING 6 FEET, EXCEPT AS DESIGNATED OR POSTED .
- D. EVERY ELECTRIC MICROMOBILITY DEVICE, ELECTRIC PERSONAL ASSISTIVE MOBILITY DEVICE AND BICYCLE SHALL BE PARKED IN SUCH A MANNER AS TO AFFORD THE LEAST OBSTRUCTION TO PEDESTRIAN TRAVEL, AND TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC AND PARKING.
- E. IT IS LAWFUL TO RIDE BY HORSEBACK ON ROADS, PARKING LOTS, TRAILS, AND PATHWAYS, EXCEPT AS DESIGNATED OR POSTED.
- F. UNLESS OTHERWISE POSTED, SPEED LIMITS ON TRAILS AND PATHWAYS ARE **FIFTEEN (15) MILES PER HOUR**. THE SPEED LIMIT IS REDUCED TO WHAT IS REASONABLE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHEN THERE IS HEAVY TRAFFIC, AT-GRADE INTERSECTIONS WITH STREETS, INCLEMENT WEATHER, DARKNESS, OR CONDITIONS WARRANT SLOWER SPEEDS.
- G. UNLESS OTHERWISE POSTED, SPEED LIMITS ON OPEN SPACES ROADS ARE TWENTY (20) MILES PER HOUR. THE SPEED LIMIT IS REDUCED TO WHAT IS REASONABLE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHEN THERE IS HEAVY TRAFFIC,

AT-GRADE INTERSECTIONS WITH STREETS, INCLEMENT WEATHER, DARKNESS, OR CONDITIONS WARRANT SLOWER SPEEDS.

- H. WHEELED DEVICES MUST STAY ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE TRAIL OR PATHWAY, EXCEPT WHEN PASSING, AND MUST NOT BLOCK OR IMPEDE INDIVIDUALS TRAVELING IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION.
- I. WHEN PASSING FROM ANY DIRECTION ON OPEN SPACE TRAILS, ALL VISITORS MUST GIVE THE RIGHT-OF-WAY TO EQUESTRIANS. BICYCLISTS AND OTHER WHEELED VISITORS (EXCEPT THOSE USING ELECTRIC PERSONAL ASSISTIVE MOBILITY DEVICES) MUST ALSO GIVE AN **AUDIBLE SIGNAL AND YIELD THE RIGHT-OF-WAY TO PEDESTRIANS.**

DRAFT