

City Council

Special Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, May 28, 2024
Library Meeting Room
951 Spruce Street
6:00 PM

Members of the public are welcome to attend remotely; however, the in-person meeting may continue even if technology issues prevent remote participation.

- You can call in to **+1 408 638 0968 or 833 548 0282 (Toll Free)**, Webinar ID **#876 9127 0986**.
- You can log in via your computer. Please visit the City's website here to link to the meeting: www.louisvilleco.gov/council

The Council will accommodate public comments during the meeting. Anyone may also email comments to the Council prior to the meeting at Council@LouisvilleCO.gov.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. DISCUSSION/DIRECTION – TRAFFIC SAFETY: BICYCLES & E-BIKES

- Presentation
- Public Comments (Please limit to three minutes each)
- Council Discussion/Direction

3. ADJOURN

Persons planning to attend the meeting who need sign language interpretation, translation services, assisted listening systems, Braille, taped material, or special transportation, should contact the City Clerk's Office (303.335.4536 or 303.335.4574) or ClerksOffice@LouisvilleCO.gov. A forty-eight-hour notice is requested.

Si requiere una copia en español de esta publicación o necesita un intérprete durante la reunión del Consejo, por favor llame a la Ciudad al 303.335.4536 o 303.335.4574 o email ClerksOffice@LouisvilleCO.gov.

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION/DIRECTION – TRAFFIC SAFETY: BICYCLES & E-BIKES

DATE: MAY 28, 2024

**PRESENTED BY: RAFAEL GUTIERREZ, CHIEF OF POLICE
SCOTT MOORE, CRIME PREVENTION SPECIALIST**

SUMMARY:

Several Councilmembers recently received communication from community members regarding concerns about E-bike safety and the operation of these bicycles throughout the city. Education, Enforcement, and Engineering are ways in which the City and its departments typically address traffic safety concerns.

Improved traffic safety is a priority for the police department and we continue to emphasize a proactive approach during daily patrol operations. Beginning in the summer of 2023, the police department implemented several strategies to address overall traffic safety for automobiles, pedestrians and bicyclists throughout the city. Focused traffic safety zones, community messaging and engagement, collaboration with other City departments, and equipping officers with tools for traffic enforcement are specific ways the police department has worked to address traffic safety concerns. The above listed approaches primarily use the Education and Enforcement strategy.

For addressing bicycle and E-bike safety, the City departments feel a useful approach is to focus on providing education related to safe bicycle use, understanding E-bike specific requirements and capabilities, and knowledge of traffic laws related to bicycle operation on a roadway or pathway. This includes partnering with multiple stakeholders to reach a wider audience. We also understand that in some cases, Enforcement is also an option and sometimes warranted. The strategies discussed in the attached presentation highlight some of what has been done and ideas for future engagement opportunities.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Fiscal impacts will vary depending on council's direction. Potential costs would be associated with staff's time, promotional materials, engineering costs, signage, and registration program expenses. Specific Fiscal Impact is currently unknown.









RECOMMENDATION:

Staff is open to feedback and additional guidance from council on other ways in which to address the concerns that have been raised.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Presentation

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT:

<input type="checkbox"/>	 Financial Stewardship & Asset Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	 Reliable Core Services
<input type="checkbox"/>	 Vibrant Economic Climate	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Quality Programs & Amenities
<input type="checkbox"/>	 Engaged Community	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Healthy Workforce
<input type="checkbox"/>	 Supportive Technology	<input type="checkbox"/>	 Collaborative Regional Partner

Traffic Safety:
Bicycles and E-Bikes
Chief of Police Rafael Gutierrez
Crime Prevention Specialist Scott Moore



Traffic Safety Efforts

- Directive toward a more robust approach to proactive policing in general
- Equipped and Certified in speed enforcement
- Focused Traffic Safety Zones Initiative
 - August 2023
 - 67% increase from previous month
 - 250-300 traffic contacts per month on average
 - Includes Vehicle, Pedestrian, Bicycle safety focus
- Locations are identified through accident data,
- Citizen concerns relayed to PD and referrals from City Traffic Engineers
- Supporting the Three “E” approach
 - Engineering
 - Education
 - Enforcement



Bicycle Laws

Bicycle and E-Bikes Classification

- E-Bike
 - Class 1
 - Class 2
 - Class 3



- No distinction between Bicycle or E-bike operation within a roadway C.R.S 42-4-1412/ Louisville Ordinance 10.12.020
- Colorado Safety Stop –April 2022
- E-Bikes Specific Regulations:
 - Persons under 16 years of age shall not operate nor ride as a passenger on Class 3, unless bike can accommodate passengers
 - No driver’s license required
 - Class 3 use must be 16 or over
 - Requires helmets for riders under 18 on Class 3
 - Class 3 restricted to roadway use- unless allowed on trails
- Local Authority may permit or prohibit e-bike usage on bike or pedestrian paths under its jurisdiction

Accident Data 2019-2024

Year	Total	Bike	Pedestrian
2019 (May-Dec)	124	8	4
2020	196	8	2
2021	305	10	6
2022	347	6	2
2023	382	8	8
2024 (Jan – May 7th)	131	1	4
Total	1485	41	26

*Trend

Increase Statewide and Nationally Auto/Pedestrian/Bicycles Accidents

Louisville, CO

Full Year Statistics 2020-2023

- Bicycle involved: 2.6%
- Pedestrian involved: 1.5%

Total Numbers

- Bicycle involved: 2.8%
- Pedestrians involved: 1.8%

Education and Enforcement

Education

- Pro-Active Community Outreach
 - Bulletins published at select times of the year
 - Working with student groups to promote safe riding
 - Attendance at various events to reinforce messaging
 - Bicycle Safety Events- Bike Rodeo
- Point of Purchase
 - Educate consumers in partnership with retailers

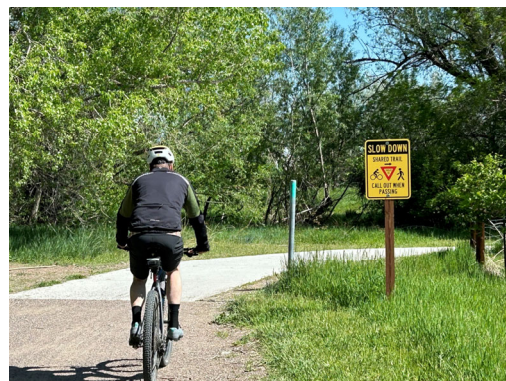
Enforcement

- Seeking balance between citations and educational contacts



Trail Etiquette and Safety Campaign Parks, Recreation & Open Space Department

- Phase 1: Install "Slow Down" signs at key areas
 - Staff identified areas with elevated trail speed concerns.
 - Open Space Advisory Board supported concept and provided feedback on locations.
 - Addressed 12 trail junctions with a total of 28 signs
 - Feedback from trail users has been positive.



Trail Etiquette and Safety Campaign

Parks, Recreation & Open Space Department

Phase 2: Trail etiquette booths

- Eight booths held over three weeks, with flexibility to add more depending on demand
- Outreach to all user groups about trail safety as shared responsibility
 - Pedestrians
 - Runners
 - Cyclists
 - E-bike users
- Locations include areas
 - Known to have more frequent trail use conflicts
 - Adjacent to schools to reach kids with messaging.
- Staff are exploring placing booth materials at key public-facing facilities

