



City Council

May 28, 2024
Packet Addendum #1

From: [Michael B. Menaker](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: e-bikes
Date: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 8:56:23 PM

Dear Mayor and Council,

While I am glad to see you reviewing our e-bike policies, the issues surrounding e-bikes are more complex than they might first appear. Understanding e-bike “Classes” is critical to getting it right on policy.

Simply stated — Throttles bad. Pedal assist good.
Pedal assisted e-bikes are **bicycles** with a little bit of help added. If you’re not pedaling there is no assistance.

Bicycles with throttles are **NOT** bicycles at all...though they have pedals, the pedals are only for show and not designed to be used (look at the cranks)...in reality they are Frankenscooters and have more in common with Vespas and the like than bicycles.

The industry hasn’t helped understanding the differences. Both Class 1 and 3 e-bikes are pedal assist only. Class 2 are the ones with throttles. That’s counter intuitive and confusing.

It’s the bikes with throttles,, ridden by young folks without a drivers license that are the problem. To ride a 50cc Vespa, you need a valid driver’s license. To ride a Class 2 e-bike no license is required— even though some are capable of higher speeds than the Vespa.

The regulatory solution is simple and obvious...require a driver’s license to operate an e-bike with a throttle. Easy and done in one. Don’t penalize real bicycles with pedal assist because you’re confused by the classifications.

Just like your car, which is capable of speeds in excess of 100mph, but never driven at that speed, Class 1 and 3 e-bikes with assistance to 220 mph or 28mph are rarely ridden at those speeds. Indeed riding our trails - both paved and dirt — I am often passed by younger riders traveling much faster. Road bikes are often ridden at speeds well above 20 mph.

Please, stop by our local and very good e-bike shop, e-Bikes of Colorado on Front Street and familiarize yourself with the differences in the various types of bikes before taking action...

You may ride out on a new e-bike.

Best,
Michael

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From: [Donna Feldman](#)
To: [City Council](#); [Christopher Leh](#)
Subject: motorcycles
Date: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 4:26:00 PM

We just witnessed a gang of 4 middle school boys on electric bikes (AKA motorcycles) RACING down the alley behind our house on Grant. RACING. Blew right across the sidewalk across Short St. and continued RACING down the alley to the north. I or one of my neighbors could have been turning into the alley to park in our garages. Then what? We get blamed for a collision because we had the nerve to believe we could use our own garages?

What is the City going to do about these kids? There's no point calling 911, they're long gone. I'm less concerned about their safety than about innocent people walking or driving, minding their own business and obeying traffic laws who end hitting one of them, or being run over by them. It's already common for pedestrians to be run off sidewalks and bike paths by these motorcycles.

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