

City Council

August 27, 2024 Packet Addendum #1 From: Ryan Kohler
To: City Council

Subject: Special Meeting - e-bikes. Question and comment.

Date: Sunday, August 25, 2024 7:45:08 PM

Will this meeting on Tuesday be recorded and available afterward?

At this time of year there are a lot of adults and coaches involved in cycling that would like to attend, but the high school mountain bike teams normally practice on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 4:30-7:00pm, so if cycling-related city meeting topics can ever be adjusted to Mon/Wed time frames I'm sure that would be appreciated so more people can attend and either listen in or contribute.

I will be coaching with the Monarch mountain bike team that evening, so will be unable to attend. However, I did contact LMS counselors last year to express concerns about riders with e-bikes navigating the roads in Louisville in a very unsafe way. I would love to see safety practices and education integrated into the schools or even invite the coaches from the various teams (Monarch, Centaurus, etc.) that focus on cycling safety nearly every day, such that students can understand the real consequences of not following the rules of the road, setting a good example for other cyclists, and holding students accountable in the same manner we hold student-athletes accountable through JV and varsity school sports. We just had a memorial ride for Magnus White, and over 4000 people turned up for it, so keeping with the momentum I would love to narrow the gap between the complaints from adults (mostly on the Facebook page) and the kids that are not connected with that Oh-Oh group.

Thank you, Ryan Kohler



Ryan Kohler, MS
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From: David Blankinship
To: City Council

Subject: Posting current e-bike regulations on new trails wayfinding signs

Date: Tuesday, August 27, 2024 9:16:39 AM

Dear City Council,

I know that coming up with appropriate regulations and recommendations for e-bike usage in the city is not an easy task. As a movement in the right direction, I would recommend doing more to post current local and state e-bike rules in more places to educate users more about what types of e-bikes are allowed and where. As it so happens, the open space department is at the beginning of a large rollout of new wayfinding signs on its trails and the larger signs in this system allow for rules and regulations to be posted. Since the code is rather clear that only class 1 and class 2 e-bikes are allowed on trails (https://www.louisvilleco.gov/living-in-louisville/residents/transportation) we should make sure that we clarify this (and maybe even define what class 1, 2, 3, and unclassified e-bikes are in some of the fine print). I would also recommend that since we are generally going with a carrot, not a stick, approach in the handling of e-bike usage we should consider what metrics we will use to determine whether what we are doing is a success. Are we going to measure this by complaints, surveys, accidents, monitoring by police and rangers, etc.? These simple steps will move us in the direction of better e-bike compliance and safety.

Sincerely, David Blankinship

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