E-Bikes and Community Mobility in Glenwood Springs

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E-Bike: Definitions

• C.R.S. § 42-4-1412

(28.5) “Electrical assisted bicycle” means a vehicle having two or three wheels, fully operable pedals, and an electric motor not exceeding seven hundred fifty watts of power. Electrical assisted bicycles are further required to conform to one of three classes as follows:

• (a) “Class 1 electrical assisted bicycle” means an electrical assisted bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of twenty miles per hour.

• (b) “Class 2 electrical assisted bicycle” means an electrical assisted bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance regardless of whether the rider is pedaling but ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of twenty miles per hour.

• (c) “Class 3 electrical assisted bicycle” means an electrical assisted bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches a speed of twenty-eight miles per hour.
E-Bikes: Laws and Regulations

- State Law Amended in August 2017
  - Class 1 & 2 e-bikes allowed where regular bikes are allowed
  - Local jurisdictions may regulate further as necessary
  - No specific rule = allowed

- Still considered motorized vehicles on public lands; prohibited where marked
- May be prohibited as motorized vehicles by other easement agreements
Glenwood Springs: Why?
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Our Process

- Broader Trail Use Conversation
  - Maximize transportation
  - Preserve recreation
  - Bikes, peds, dogs, etc.

- Administrative Process
  - Broad-based staff-level working group
  - Council work session, consensus recommendation

- Limited Public or Cross-Jurisdictional Consultation
  - “State of Emergency”, CDOT/RFTA request

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Implementation

- Municipal Code Ordinance
- Administrative Order
- Press Release and FAQ
- “Happy Trails” Campaign
- Trail Ambassadors
Outcomes

• Notable increase in trail traffic
  • No specific figures on e-bikes
  • Anecdotal success stories

• Limited public reaction
  • Some initial prejudice
  • Speed, behavior an issue among all users

• Support for continued use
• Interest in regional solution
Next Steps

- Increased education and awareness
- Pitkin OST/RFTA Regional Process
Questions?

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