JCOS E-BIKE STUDY

The purpose of our e-bike study is to gain a better understanding of visitors’ knowledge, perceptions and concerns related to the use of e-bikes on urban, natural surface and mountain trails. Two different surveys are being conducted at multiple parks.

Test Ride Surveys

Visitors respond to the same four questions before and after riding an e-bike. The survey looks at familiarity with e-bikes and any changes in perception and/or acceptance after riding one.

Intercept Survey

The Visitor Intercept Survey asks random park visitors about their perceptions, acceptance and concerns related to e-bikes on trails. The survey also looks at the visitor’s ability to detect an e-bike.

EARLY STUDY FINDINGS

Over 65% of park visitors changed their perception of e-bikes after a test ride.

Over 65% of park visitors did not detect the presence of a class 1 e-bike on the trail with them.

Visitor Comments

"Not sure how I feel about e-bikes—exploring! Thanks for the study!"

"I have no concerns, as long as they are following proper etiquette."

"Trails are congested as they are and amplifying the speed of bikes will diminish the enjoyment of anyone on foot."

"I ride a road bike regularly and I’m less concerned about e-bikes more concerned about cycling etiquette (e.g. announcing one’s self prior to passing)."

Do you support allowing e-bikes on JCOS trails?

Email us your thoughts
jeffcoparks@jeffco.us

Take the Survey
www.surveymonkey.com/r/jcosebikes

More information
jeffco.us/open-space/meetings-agendas/projects-proposals

REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT

FEDERAL

E-bikes are classified as motorized vehicles and are only allowed on motorized trails, including Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and National Forest (USFS) lands.

COLORADO

E-bikes are classified as bicycles and have the same rights of the road as traditional bicycles. Class 1 e-bikes are allowed in all Colorado State Parks where bicycles are permitted.

LOCAL

Local governments have the authority to authorize the use of e-bikes on bike or pedestrian paths.

Current Jeffco Open Space Park Regulation

C.18. Motorized Vehicle Use

It shall be unlawful to operate any motorized vehicle on Open Space lands except on designated public roadways.

Fine: $100.00

Legal or not, e-bikes are already in use on our trails. Jeffco Open Space (JCOS) has the authority to allow or prohibit this technology on our trail system. We are engaging our park visitors in our decision.
E-bikes are classified as "electrical assisted bicycles" and generally fall into Class 1, 2 or 3. Available for multiple uses, e-bikes can assist with longer commutes and allow riders with limited physical ability to recreate outdoors.

Road e-bikes are built for flat surface roads

eMTBs are built for all-terrain trails

Quiet operation

Electric motor of less than 750 watts (1hp)

No throttle: assist feature only provides power up to 20 mph

Pedal assist: pedals are fully operable, rider must pedal to enjoy assist feature

Weight: most weigh between 40–50lbs