With an e-bike, bicyclists can ride more often, farther, and for more trips.

Electric bicycles are designed to be as safe as traditional bicycles, do not compromise consumer safety, and benefit bicyclists who may be discouraged from riding a traditional bicycle due to limited physical fitness, age, disability or convenience.

In many states, e-bikes are regulated under antiquated laws primarily aimed at combustion engine vehicles such as mopeds or scooters. PeopleForBikes is clarifying state laws governing the use of e-bikes in the U.S. Every state’s law is different, but the objective is to ensure that low-speed e-bikes are regulated similarly to traditional, human-powered bicycles.

» Helmets are not required, but the age minimum for e-bike use is 16 years. E-bikes are allowed on sidewalks if bicycles are allowed.
» State law does not specifically address whether e-bikes are allowed on bike paths. Consult your local authority or agency for information about whether e-bikes are permitted on bike paths.

* The following North Carolina laws are referenced: N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-4.01 (7a & 49).