

HOW DOES AN E-BIKE DIFFER FROM A TRADITIONAL BIKE?

BIKE



VS.

ELECTRIC BIKE (E-BIKE)



VS.

ELECTRIC MOUNTAIN BIKE (eMTB)



DESIGN

- » Bikes are used for mobility and recreation.
- » Bikes are exclusively human-powered, include a wide variety of designs and offer an endless amount of uses.

- » E-bikes are used for mobility and recreation.
- » E-bikes are used similarly to bikes but can help resolve barriers to biking related to commuting, carrying kids or cargo, physical limitations and/or terrain.
- » E-bikes are either powered by a motor that assists when pedaling or activated by a throttle. They are designed like bicycles.

- » eMTBs are often used for recreational purposes, especially on trails.
- » Riding an eMTB is similar to riding a traditional mountain bike, with the assistance of a small motor.
- » eMTBs are either powered by a motor that assists when pedaling or activated by a throttle. In general, eMTBs are pedal-assist only.

REGULATION

- » Bikes are defined as human-powered vehicles that don't generally require licensing, registration or insurance to operate.
- » State and local regulations determine where bikes are allowed to travel on streets and paths.
- » There may be additional state or local laws around speed limits, age restrictions, the use of helmets and other equipment and operating requirements.

- » The first sale and manufacturing of e-bikes is federally regulated by the Consumer Product Safety Commission.
- » E-bikes are defined in a state or local traffic code for operation.
- » States and cities determine which class, if any, of e-bikes are allowed on streets, bike lanes, bike paths and sidewalks.
- » States and cities may set additional requirements such as speed limits, age restrictions and the use of helmets.

- » eMTBs access is primarily governed by a state or local natural resource department.
- » eMTBs are generally allowed on motorized trails and roads.
- » Agencies determine which class, if any, of eMTBs are allowed on non-motorized, natural surface trails.
- » Agencies may determine additional requirements such as speed limits, etiquette guidelines and access provisions.

