

Batch 3

Comments about E-Bikes for the Parks, Trails,
and Recreation Commission

Received between 4:30pm on on Mon., Feb.
8th and 12:00pm on Wed., Feb. 10th, 2021

From: [E](#)
To: [Emily Black](#)
Subject: E-Bikes
Date: Monday, February 08, 2021 4:48:45 PM

**I am very strongly oppose allowing e-bikes on the Highline Trails!!!!!!
It will make the busy Highline even more unsafe for the walkers, the elderly
and children than it already is!!!!**

We live adjacent to the Highline Trail near where it crosses Colorado Blvd. It is used more and becoming more congested year by year. We have been here since 1992. It was designed for those on foot, walking or running, with children or dogs along. There are people of many ages who use the Highline, including some of our older neighbors.

The most dangerous and inconsiderate people on the Highline are the bicyclists.

Too many of them race along, speeding and weaving and expecting the pedestrians to stay out of their way. I have been nearly run over by these bicyclists as they fly along the trail, calling out to you that they are "on your left", with 2 seconds of warning to get out of their way! My husband is functionally deaf and has almost been hit several times by a bicyclist coming up rapidly from behind. And if you do not move fast enough, they are happy to swear at you or berate you.

When we moved in, we were told that the pedestrians have the right of way and the bicyclists were not to go fast on the Trail. However, nothing could be farther from the reality. When I called to report one such incident and ask why there was not more policing of the trail and the bicyclists, for the safety of myself, my husband, children and grandchildren, I was told the Cherry Hills Police Dept does not do that. They do not give out any tickets to bicyclists who break the law. Great!!!

I absolutely do not want to add motorized vehicles to the Highline Trail. It is not wide enough and it is the pedestrian who is running for the ditch to avoid getting run over.

Please keep the Highline Trail safe for pedestrians, children and the elderly!!!!!!!!!!

Betsy Holtgrewe
2 Foxhill Road, CHV

From: [Brian Curd](#)
To: [Emily Black](#)
Subject: Ebikes
Date: Monday, February 08, 2021 6:42:58 PM

Hi Emily

Sounds like Council considering safety of Ebikes on Cherry Hills trails.

My thoughts are primarily on their speed and who is controlling them. I do think it's admirable that an older segment can get out and enjoy how pretty our neighborhood trails are. Some even 'ride' their bikes with little power assist and are getting a good workout.

Unfortunately too many are cruising at unsafe speeds, not exerting effort just 'driving' along. Bikes and pedestrians can't judge their speeds, they're driving 20 mph or more often uphill. They don't call their passes startling pedestrians and bike riders alike. They also often pass very close as they weave through congested areas. Throw in dogs on leashes and it a recipe for some legal wrangling.

It isn't getting better over time. It's become a trendy toy for a certain age group. There are going to be accidents and residents are going to get hurt. With the weight of an Ebike it is probably the pedestrian or the bike rider (or pet) that will be the worse for the crash.

I don't believe the Village allows motorized vehicle, motorcycles or scooters on the trails? I don't know how an Ebike is different with their top speeds probably close to 30 mph or so.

Thanks for your kind consideration.

Brian Curd

Sent from my iPhone

From: [SHERRILL KOELBEL](#)
To: [Emily Black](#)
Subject: E-Bike comment
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2021 9:47:09 AM

Emily Black,

My preference would be for e-bikers to remain on Highline canal where they are allowed and for the most part, Somewhat removed by the canal from the back yards of our homes.

I also strenuously believe that we should NOT be encouraging NON-villagers to enjoy OUR private trails. I know there are a couple

Spots where we are DIRECTING users of the Highline to come to our trails. Our trails are very close to residences and I am increasingly

Concerned about the drug users, thieves (cars, front porch packages, bikes,) being reported on Next Door from Englewood DAILY.

Worried about the encroachment of the crime to our Village.

Thank you for posting my comments.

Sherri Koelbel

From: [Cindy Sullivan](#)
To: [Emily Black](#)
Subject: e-Bikes on the Canal
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2021 10:54:52 AM

To whom it may concern:

It has come to my attention that the Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission is considering allowing e-bikes on the Highline Canal. I admittedly disagree that this should be allowed. I am a Colorado Native and have lived in Cherry Hills Village the majority of my life. I currently reside in Greenwood Village on the Highline Canal. I attend Cherry Hills Elementary school and my children (ages 10 and 7) now attend as well. My entire family has used the Highline Canal for almost 40 years. I would absolutely hate to see this approved as it opens the door for danger to our kids and goes against the long standing regulation that no motorized vehicles are aloud on the Highline. E-Bikes should be considered as a danger to the highline and its users due directly to the high speeds people can travel at (20-28mph)... we don't even drive that fast on the streets in our neighborhoods... why allow in on our peaceful walking path?

These bikes are considerably faster than normal bikes and are a danger to children, adults and animals using the highline canal for walking, running and biking. Young children should be the biggest factor as to why ebikes should not be aloud on the highline.

Due to the pandemic and more people being outside, the canal has become a popular place, the idea of adding e-bikes to the growing **population** of the Highline is outright dangerous.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best-
Cindy Sullivan
920 E Sunset Court
Greenwood Village, CO 80121
303-818-1130

From: [Ralph Pickett](#)
To: [Emily Black](#)
Subject: Ebikes on trails
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2021 1:02:40 PM

Hi Emily - I live at 3 Carriage Brook Rd in CHV. I am concerned about a proposal to allow ebikes on the bridle trails in the village. The trails are not steep and would invite people to race through faster than is safe. It is already an issue with human powered bikes. Outside of ADA issues, there is no reason to allow e-bikes on the trails. It would destroy the character and enjoyment of the trails.

Thanks!

Ralph Pickett

From: [Comcast imber](#)
To: [Emily Black](#)
Subject: E bikes
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2021 1:30:57 PM

We are adamantly opposed to allowing E bikes on our trails because: additional noise, safety concerns involving walkers, dogs, bicycles and particularly the youngest and oldest persons using the trails, increased traffic and turning a country path or trail into a road. We see nothing positive resulting from allowing motorized vehicles on Cherry Hills trails and in fact, consider it to be counter productive in terms of how and why we residents value living here in a uniquely bucolic setting.

Helen and Rich Imber

Sent from my iPhone

From: [john love](#)
To: [Emily Black](#)
Subject: ebike proposal
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2021 3:26:22 PM

Emily,

This is to register my strong disapproval of the ebike proposal. Why would we purposely allow disruptions to the peace of the Village? I spend 8 years on City Council trying to maintain the somewhat pastoral nature of our special village and the picture of ebikers zooming past, avoiding hikers does not fit the picture. And, make no mistake, the use of ebikes would not be for slow, leisurely rides.

Thank you for sharing my comments,

John Love

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: [Mark Griffin](#)
To: [Emily Black](#)
Subject: Motorized Vehicles on CHV trails and the Highline Canal
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2021 4:57:17 PM

Chairman Stephanie Dahl

Absolutely not!

The trails and the Highline Canal in Cherry Hills Village are sacred avenues that were designed to allow equestrians and pedestrians a quiet, safe environment to enjoy the peaceful tranquility that is Cherry Hills Village.

We have prohibited motorized vehicles in our village for many years and now we are threatened by those that seek to impose their will on what we hold dear.

To allow motorized bikes into our village is unacceptable and only would encourage more encroachment.

I have seen e-bikes on the trail behind my house now for months and I want it stopped.

On several occasions, I have seen e-bikes, with gasoline powered dirt bikes mixed in, traversing the equestrian trail.

At one point I encountered a fancy golf cart, driven by a resident, who was on his way to Glenmoor Country Club!

Where does it stop? Soon we will have golf carts, dirt bikes, etc. on our trails.

No.

We take a hard line now.....no motorized vehicles, period.

Enforcement can be dealt with if we deem it a priority.

We need to do the right thing now, before it gets out of control.

All the best,

Mark L. Griffin

3236 Cherryridge Road
Cherry Hills Village , Colorado
80113-6010

Phone 303-324-0965

From: [Thomas Matherly](#)
To: [Emily Black](#)
Subject: E Bikes
Date: Tuesday, February 09, 2021 6:53:20 PM

Dear Parks and Trails Commissioners:

Please do not allow e-bikes on the Cherry Hills Village trail system. I believe the trails should remain free of all motorized traffic of any kind whether powered by electric motors or internal combustion engines. They disrupt the essence of the nature trail and what it stands for: a place for calm walks and rides through nature. E-bikes speeding by destroys that.

Sincerely,

Thomas Matherly
10 Random Road

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Brian Fuller](#)
To: [Emily Black](#)
Subject: E-Bikes on CHV trails
Date: Wednesday, February 10, 2021 7:57:23 AM

Hello Emily and the rest of the PTR Commission,
I brief, my experience and therefore my opinion is that it would be a significant mistake to allow E-Bikes on CHV trails. As a near-daily user of the trail system as a runner I see that we already have a significant problem with cyclists exceeding the 15 MPH limit along with a general 80% failure rate to warn pedestrians as they pass. The 80% figure is a compilation of my own statistics. I have seen numerous E-Bikes on the Highline Canal Trail in the past 6 months and the riders uniformly travel too fast, often with limited regard for other trail users. With the Hampden underpass near completion it is possible that the Highline would become a commuter lane for E-Bikes if the trail is opened to them. That would be bad news.

Best regards and thank you for considering this important issue.

Brian Fuller
cell phone 720-335-0881

Denise M. O’Leary and Kent J. Thiry
2 Cantitoe Lane
Cherry Hills Village, CO 80113
denise@dmoleary.com
650-430-5156 (mobile)

February 10, 2021

Cherry Hills Village Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission
Stephanie Dahl, Chair
Fred Wolfe, Vice Chair
Robert Ebert
Kate Murphy
Aron Grodinsky
Tory Leviton
Chelsea Scott

Sent via email to Emily Black, CHV Parks, Trails and Recreation Coordinator:
eblack@cherryhillsvillage.com

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Cherry Hills Village Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission:

Thank you for providing members of the community the ability to comment on the proposed amendment to the CHV municipal code that would remove the prohibition of motorized vehicles on the Village trails, including the High Line Canal Trail. I write to express my serious concerns about this proposal, especially as it relates to the allowance of E-bikes on our CHV trails.

Our property borders the High Line, and we are frequent users of the CHV trail system. These are wonderful community assets, shared by people of all ages and physical abilities: runners, walkers, people with dogs, people on horses, and bike riders as well. There are people in wheelchairs and using walkers and canes, people with impaired vision and hearing, and families with young children learning to ride bikes. As you probably already know, the development of Belleview Station has increased traffic on the trails in our area. It has been particularly gratifying during the past year, with COVID restrictions in place, to see so many people use this beautiful, accessible and peaceful trail system.

Allowing E-bikes seems very risky to me, as increased speed is not helpful to anyone else on the trail. The terrain is largely flat, so having additional biking power only serves to allow people to travel faster. That seems to be a very bad idea: horses, dogs, young children and the elderly can all be surprised by the approach of a fast-moving bike, and it doesn’t take much to imagine some truly horrific consequences. And while proponents of this amendment would likely say

that this risk could be mitigated by enforcing speed restrictions, I think we all could agree that this would be extremely difficult to enforce: E-bikes have no identification, there are no cameras in place, and I seriously doubt that having law enforcement try to manage this would be seen as a good expenditure of Town resources. I have been on the trails when E-bikes have sped past, even though they are not technically allowed now – it is a startling experience. This change would not only disadvantage so many of our existing trail users, but would actually create more dangerous conditions for those who are most vulnerable, and only for the benefit of one cohort. That does not seem to be in the spirit of our community, nor in our best interests as a whole.

Thank you for your consideration of these concerns, and we look forward to hearing the discussion this week.

With best regards,
Denise O’Leary and Kent Thiry