



REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT Policy and Procedure Manual



Policy 8.12

Electric Bicycle Usage

I. POLICY

It is the policy of Riverside County Regional Park and Open-Space District to provide guidelines for electric bicycle usage within county parks, reserves, and trails to promote a safe user experience and protect natural resources. This policy shall be consistent with CA Vehicle Code, Section 312.5. Where this policy differs from the Vehicle Code, the Vehicle Code shall be followed.

II. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance on the type of electric bicycles approved for use on multi-use trails and clarify where electric bicycles are prohibited within Riverside County Regional Park and Open-Space District owned and managed parks, reserves, and trails.

III. DEFINITION

An electric bicycle is equipped with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of less than 750 watts. Additionally, the State of California has categorized electric bicycles into three (3) classifications.

- A. A “class 1 electric bicycle,” or “low-speed pedal-assisted electric bicycle,” is a bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.
- B. A “class 2 electric bicycle,” or “low-speed throttle-assisted electric bicycle,” is a bicycle equipped with a motor that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle, and that is not capable of providing assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.
- C. A “class 3 electric bicycle,” or “speed pedal-assisted electric bicycle,” is a bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling,



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that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 28 miles per hour and is equipped with a speedometer.

- D. Any electric bicycle tampered with or modified to change speed capabilities is considered a class 3 electric bicycle.

IV. PROCEDURE

- A. Class 1 & 2 electric bicycles are approved for use within parks, reserves, and trails pursuant to state law, with the following exceptions:
1. Parks, reserves, and trails where all bicycles are prohibited
 2. Box Springs Mountain Reserve
 3. Sylvan Meadows Reserve
 4. Hidden Valley Wildlife Area, except for the Santa Ana River Trail
 5. Any other County or District owned or managed properties with signage prohibiting electric bicycles
- B. Class 3 electric bicycles are prohibited within all parks, reserves, and trails.
- C. All electric bicycles are to be operated in a safe manner per the manufacturer's requirements. Any person(s) found operating in a reckless or unsafe manner are subject to a one-day suspension from the facility.

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