

-----Original Message-----

From: Laurence Lerner [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, March 7, 2021 12:39 PM
To: OC Parks, Commission <OCParksCommission@ocparks.com>
Subject: Policies & Strategies - Province of British Columbia

In followup to this past weeks meeting on the subject. Larry Lerner
[https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/sports-culture/recreation/camping-hiking/sites-trails/program/policies-strategies_!!KL1yqyOaGX2drUI!1RluSzEKZjUtG16cqxLPk9yXg6_t3p-22-nh1MmuT7iYGht0Q3FrnFJgPnkutyjF3Blbm8w\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/sports-culture/recreation/camping-hiking/sites-trails/program/policies-strategies_!!KL1yqyOaGX2drUI!1RluSzEKZjUtG16cqxLPk9yXg6_t3p-22-nh1MmuT7iYGht0Q3FrnFJgPnkutyjF3Blbm8w$)

Sent from my iPhone

-----Original Message-----

From: Carol S. Buss [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, March 8, 2021 9:44 PM

To: OC Parks, Commission <OCParksCommission@ocparks.com>

Subject: E-bikes in wilderness parks

Please do not allow e-bikes in wilderness parks. Their sparks could start a devastating fire in our Orange County Parks that would endanger homes and individuals. I am in my 70's and have felt threatened by them as they race by me when I am hiking our wilderness trails. I have two friends who have been injured by "close encounters of the e-bike" kind. There are many roads and places for them to ride safely without endangering others. Please make them illegal in our Orange County parks and wilderness areas.

Carol S Buss

Resident and hiker of Top of the World in Laguna Beach

From: KELLEHER TIM [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 12, 2021 7:59 AM
To: OC Parks, Commission <OCParksCommission@ocparks.com>
Subject: e-bikes at Salt Creek Beach

I understand that certain e-bikes (class 1 & 2) are permissible on the Salt Creek park trail by ordinance however, I would like to encourage the commission to re-visit this issue due to major safety concerns. I also know that the speed limit for these vehicles on the path is 10mph however this speed limit is rarely followed nor enforced.

I have personally witnessed multiple close calls between these bikes and pedestrians and realize that a vehicle traveling at 20mph does not mix very well with pedestrians moving at an average speed of 3-4mph. It will not be long until there are major injuries between pedestrians and bikes and since these are bike riders are unlicensed minors with no insurance attorneys will naturally seek the deep pockets of the Orange County Parks tax coffers.

I urge the Commission to look closer at this situation and consider the summer beach crowd that use the Salt Creek Trail from the parking lot to the beach.

Tim Kelleher

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

From: James Leon [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, March 12, 2021 4:53 PM
To: OC Parks, Commission <OCParksCommission@ocparks.com>
Subject: Protect OC trail from e-bike damage and danger

I am writing to you to support the current policy of the OC Parks prohibiting e-Bikes. I am an avid mountain biker who also deeply appreciates the paths and trails through nature near which we're lucky to live. I've been riding trails in OC Parks and other trails in Orange County for at least 25 years. I've heard first-hand numerous arguments in favor of opening county trails to e-Bikes directly from e-Bike riders on the trails. I think the greater damage from e-Bikes to our trails is obvious, deductively, and by observation.

I argue that human limitations are critical protection against damage to trails that are open for hiking and biking. When we remove human limitations, we remove protection against trail damage. I'm not talking about "a few bad apples". Obviously, there are plenty of bad apples that are making it even worse, but every single e-Bike rider on the trail is doing something they would not or could not do otherwise. They're going deeper into nature, climbing longer, taking steeper climbs, more technical climbs, riding in softer dirt, mud, going faster, riding more often with less effort, taking multiple loops, etc, etc. They all result in more damage than would have happened otherwise. Some eBike proponents will counter those reasons by pointing out the advances in bike technology that give riders of normal bikes greater ability to also do those things like carbon-fiber that makes a bike lighter, drive trains that offer greater peddling efficiency, suspensions that make climbing and descending easier, etc. None of those gradual advances have turned a 40-minute climb to a summit into a 20-minute sprint as an electric motor and battery can.

Protecting the natural habitat is probably my first motivation for objecting to their use on unpaved trails. They also present a new hazard to hikers and even other bikers.

The only changes I would like to see are the mass installation of "No e-Bikes" signs and more enforcement.

Thank you for your time and continued support for the protection of Orange County's trails and green spaces.

Sincerely,

James Leon

U.S. Marine Corps Veteran

E-mail [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679

From: Jason Walker <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, March 22, 2021 10:50 AM
To: OC Parks, Commission <OCParksCommission@ocparks.com>
Subject: Laguna Beach resident - concerns

Hello,

I am a laguna beach resident, my family and I hike & cycle on the woods trails and crystal cove trails from our house everyday. I am writing because I am concerned for our and the general public's safety on the trails. I mountain bike for 2 hours everyday and normally see 6-10 electric bikes on average and this number has been increasing drastically over the past year. I understand electric bikes are not permitted on the trails and I try to tell the electric bike riders and they just give me attitude. Typically people who purchase and use electric bikes are more inexperienced riders, on a heavier bike with batteries and a motor traveling at higher speeds than they should. This is a danger to all of us on the trails and I don't want to sign my safety and the public's safety away. My friend was recently hit by an electric bike heading down mathis trail, he was all bruised up with black eyes and the lady riding the electric bike was airlifted. I understand that if someone is handicap - that an electric bike gives them an outlet and I support that. Being said, if someone is handicap it is not smart to be going really fast on the tight downhill trails on a heavy electric bike, which is what I see. Electric bikes are not only very dangerous for its riders and the surrounding public but it is also not "green" or sustainable. If we are trying to head in the right direction then electric bikes are not the way. The manufacturing of the batteries, motors, and electricity needed deems it as unsustainable and detrimental to our environment. If electric bikes were permitted on our trails then I don't see the difference between an electric bike and a dirt bike. I do not support electric bikes on our trails and would like to help this cause. I would like to be able to have my voice heard at the next commision meeting.

Thank you,
Jason Walker
[REDACTED]