



City Council

July 22, 2025
Packet Addendum #1

From: [Allison Johanson](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Cc: [Barbara Hamlington](#); [Dietrich Hoefner](#); [Luke Johanson](#)
Subject: Ordinance 1899 (Series 2025) Follow-up: Bike / E-bike Speed Limits and Regulations
Date: Tuesday, July 22, 2025 11:54:36 AM

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] From outside of City of Louisville DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor Leh and City Council,

After listening to the July 8th City Council meeting, where bike speed limits on parks and open space paths were discussed as part of Ordinance 1899 (Series 2025), I wanted to reach out to provide feedback and comments.

For your awareness and background, each year I run / mountain bike 2000+ miles. The vast majority of these miles start in Old Town Louisville and use Coal Creek Trail to connect to the trail systems in Superior and Boulder County. These miles and subsequent hours have provided me with an incredible opportunity to observe and experience many elements that relate to Ordinance 1899 and bike / e-bike / e-moto use in Louisville.

Below are observations I have made within the last year or two related to bikes, and more specifically e-bikes / e-motos:

- E-bike traffic has increased exponentially. Specifically, youth on varying classes of e-bikes.
- The number of class 3 e-bikes and e-motos riding on sidewalks, multi-use paths (ex. Powerline Path), and trails (ex. Coal Creek Trail) is *excessive*. Additionally, the majority of these riders appear to be under the required legal licensing age to ride these e-bikes / e-motos at all.
- Since e-bike / e-moto traffic has increased, the number of close calls I have experienced as a runner or experienced rider have also increased exponentially. Examples of close calls I've had include youth riding in the left "lane" of Coal Creek Trail when cornering (often in blind curves), youth riding with multiple passengers while the primary rider is distracted by their cell phone, large groups of young riders riding recklessly, or bikes simply not be cognizant of rules of the road (ex. riding on the left side of the road, failing to slow at intersections to use the "Safety Stop Law").
- Youth gather at LMS, racing their e-bikes / e-motos around the LMS track (I observed this as recently as July 21st, when I drove by at 9:20PM).
- Trail damage on Coal Creek Trail from "donuts" and "wheelies" continues to increase.
- There are certainly non-powered bikes that ride over 15 mph; however, I do not recall specific incidents with these riders.
- Related to the close calls and concerns I've had related to e-bike / e-moto usage it has been primarily with youth, not adults.

As our leaders look at ways to improve the quality of life and safety in our community, related to bike / e-bike / e-moto usage, I sincerely believe it will require the enforcement of [current requirements](#), first. If it is possible to cite (and educate) youth 10 and over /

parents of these youth for the primary infraction of riding a bike that is not classed for the surface or their age, we will make the most significant, positive impact in Louisville.

Speed is a contributing factor to the concerns many people in our community have related to bike / e-bike / e-moto use. There may certainly be benefits to Louisville having recommended speeds like [Boulder](#) or other neighboring communities. However, these speed recommendations will not ensure riders stay on the correct side of a road / trail / path, it doesn't ensure inexperienced 10 - 15 year olds know how to handle a vehicle going 15+ mph within 10' of other users, and it doesn't ensure e-bikes / e-motos meant for solely road use by ages 16+ are kept on the road.

I respectfully ask that you consider this honest feedback as you make future recommendations and guide City Staff. If you have follow-up questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

All the best,

Allison

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Allison Johanson
615 Jefferson Ave.
Louisville, CO 80027

From: [Barbara Kish](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: E-Bike Concerns - Please enact a policy to protect the kids!
Date: Monday, July 21, 2025 12:47:31 PM

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] From outside of City of Louisville DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Louisville Mayor and Council Members,

I am a very concerned citizen writing about kids riding E-Bikes with throttles.

I live on a main thoroughfare in Louisville near downtown. Not a day goes by that I don't witness kids riding their mini-motorcycles in a very dangerous manner. There are so many near misses involving kids on these bikes, pedestrians and cars. I seldom see kids actually pedaling, they fully rely on the motor.

Have you seen the kids standing on the seats doing wheelies down Pine, and then turning on HWY 42? I have. Have you seen the 3 kids riding one e-bike, not pedaling, and blowing through the 4-way stop at Front and Pine? I have. It's evident the current policy governing e-bikes is putting lives at risk. In addition, how will responsible drivers live with themselves after their car strikes a kid riding motorized vehicle in an unsafe fashion, operating outside the rules of the road?

I appreciate that the council is considering a bicycle speed limit, however this will not solve the core issue. E-bikes with throttles aren't bicycles in any meaningful sense. They are motorized vehicles - often indistinguishable from mopeds or dirt bikes - and yet they're operating without any of the oversight we expect of motor vehicles.

I urge you to implement legislation to close this cap. Will it take a kid being killed or seriously injured for the city to act. This isn't about limiting access or punishing kids. It's about public safety and responsible governance. Please step in before we have a tragedy.

Sincerely,

Barb Kish
1133 Pine St.
Louisville CO 80027

From: [Michael B. Menaker](#)
To: [City Council](#)
Subject: Kids and e-motor vehicles
Date: Monday, July 21, 2025 10:28:07 AM

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] From outside of City of Louisville DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor and Council,
Each week you receive letters from citizens deeply concerned by dangerous kids on e-bikes with throttles.

Each day our local Facebook groups are posting horror stories of near misses for the kids, pedestrians, and drivers.

It is small comfort that you are about to enact an unenforceable bicycle speed limit and apparently have yet to learn to distinguish between pedal assist only e-bikes and e-bikes with throttles (motor vehicles).

Must we wait for tragedy for you to act responsibly?

--

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