

E-bike Pilot Program Proposed Framework – City of Fort Collins

Table 1: Proposed Pilot Program Scope	
Pilot Program Scope	Proposed
Geographic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Paved Multi-Use Trails, managed by City of Fort Collins
E-bike types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class 1 and Class 2 E-bikes
Pilot Duration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One year Data collection period - 9 months
Pilot Scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trail education / etiquette campaign Collect data during the designated period to assess impacts Analyze data and develop findings Present findings to Boards and Commissions, and Council for next steps and policy direction
Pre-development outreach / public input	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2017-2019 Boards and Commissions Brief surveys at upcoming events (e.g., Open Streets); E-bike demos Ongoing data collection during fall bike counts (percentage of e-bikes)
Education / Outreach <i>(further outlined below)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trail etiquette messaging (temporary yard signs along trails) Pilot Program specific signage (on trails at key locations) Retail handouts distributed to bike shops Additional “courtesy speed limit” signs if needed Press releases Videos on FCTV Website and social media advertising Posters / flyers / department materials with educational information Partnerships with bike shops, organizations, and regional entities FC Bikes / Parks / Natural Areas Pop-up events along trails
Evaluation / Data Collection <i>(further outlined below)</i>	<p>Evaluation will seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess public opinion and perceptions around allowing e-bikes on paved trails Collect data to understand impacts to trail user experience and safety Measure changes to bicycle utilization on trails Increase awareness of proper trail etiquette and trail use laws Collect comprehensive to be able to report back in areas of concern <p>The following data will be collected prior to the implementation of the pilot and during the pilot in order to provide baseline information and help decision makers in determining the impacts of the pilot and next steps following its completion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bicycle speed assessments Trail counts (e-bike use) and e-bike retail sales Crash / incident reports (involving e-bikes) Trail surveys Observation study (user behavior / etiquette)

	<p>In addition, the following information will be collected during the pilot program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trail Ranger observations • Noise assessment • Online surveys • Intercept trail surveys • General comments and feedback
Enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signage at key locations indicating the types of e-bikes allowed and where • Extensive user education and outreach with an emphasis on trail etiquette, courtesy speed limit of 15 mph, and other trail laws • Data collection including speed snapshots to determine if and where problems exist • Warnings or citations issued by Rangers when feasible • During the pilot program, observational data will be collected by Rangers, other City Staff and volunteers, and the public will have opportunities to report conflicts and provide input. If it is determined the presence of e-bikes on paved trails is contributing to user conflicts or unsafe behaviors, staff will partner with Police Services to conduct targeted enforcement at key locations. • Ultimately, the data and feedback collected through the pilot program will help inform if policies and or regulations should be modified.
Follow-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boards, Commissions and Council • Presentation on findings, determination if the pilot program should be extended, made permanent, modified or expired
Cost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimate: \$5,000-\$10,000 (not including staff time)
Key Partners	<p>Internal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural Areas • Park Planning & Development • Parks • FC Moves / Bikes • Police Services • City Attorney’s Office <p>External:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bicycle organizations • Bicycle retailers • Colorado State University • Public Health Graduate Class (class project would be focused on the e-bike pilot program) • Regional partners

Table 2: Proposed Pilot Program Evaluation

Data will be collected to assess safety, trail experience impacts, perspectives on allowing e-bikes on paved trails, and overall trail use. Certain data will be collected prior to the implementation of the pilot in order to provide a baseline for assessing the impact of the pilot. This is noted in the table. Where location-based data is collected, a variety of trail types / configurations will be included to determine if conditions differ based on the type, configuration or location of the trail.

Method	Evaluation Goal	Data collected	Instrument	Lead	Location / Times
Speed snapshots	Safety	User Speeds Bike Type	Mobile radar units	FC Bikes	Pre & Post 2 x per year Determine locations
Observation Study	Safety, Trail Experience, Use	Counts, mode, type of bike, user demographics, observations related to unsafe trail use (e.g., passing too close, recklessness, "speeding", not announcing passing)	Observation form	FC Bikes / Rangers / Ambassadors	Pre & Post 2 x per year Determine locations
General Comments	Perspectives on Pilot Program, Safety, Trail Experience	General comments through emails, online comment form	Reported to Access Fort Collins, Parks, Park Planning, Natural Areas, Rangers or FC Moves. Comment form created on website	FC Bikes (other Departments maintain records of comments received)	Ongoing
General Ranger Observations	Safety, Use	Ex. How many e-bikes observed, if observed, (1) appropriate behavior, (2) inappropriate/unsafe behavior (3) location	Observation form	Rangers	Ongoing

Table 2 (continued): Proposed Pilot Program Evaluation

Method	Evaluation Goal	Data collected	Instrument	Lead	Location / Times
Intercept Survey	Perspectives on Pilot Program, Safety, Trail Experience, Trip Characteristics	Type of bike, trip purpose, did bike replace other mode, experience w/e-bikes on trails, observations, areas of concern, position on the pilot program, demographics	Intercept Survey	FC Moves, volunteers	1 x per year Determine locations
Incident Reports	Safety	Crashes / Incidents involving e-bikes	Access Fort Collins Police Email	Unknown	Pre & Post Ongoing
Noise Assessment	Trail Experience	Noise level of different types of bikes	Decibel Readers	Natural Areas / FC Bikes	1 x per year
Online Survey	Perspectives on Pilot Program, Safety, Trail Experience	Experience w/e-bikes on trails, observations, areas of concern, position on the pilot program	Online survey	FC Bikes	Ongoing
Feedback form at pop-up events	Perceptions, Trail Experience, Safety	Experience w/e-bikes on trails, position on the pilot program, perceptions of e-bikes (following demo)	Feedback form Provide demo rides during pop-up events	FC Bikes / Natural Areas / Parks	Pre & Post Pop-up events 1-2/month during warm weather months Determine locations
Bike Retail Sales (local)	Use, Trail Experience, Safety	Local Retail sales	Tracking form	FC Bikes / Bike Shops	Pre & Post
Fall Bike / Ped Counts	Use, Trail Experience, Safety	% e-bike use	Standard bike/ped count form at trail locations (includes e-bike tracking)	FC Moves / Volunteers	Pre & Post September

Table 3: Proposed Pilot Program Education and Outreach:

Extensive education and outreach will be conducted in coordination with the City’s FC Moves, Natural Areas, Parks, Park Planning & Development, and Police Services Departments. In addition, Staff will collaborate with regional partners (including Larimer County), local bike shops, local bicycle organizations, and CSU to assist with the education and outreach campaign and ensure consistent messaging. Proposed education and outreach strategies include:

Strategies	Key Messages			
	What is the pilot program, what’s allowed, and when/where?	How can I provide feedback on the pilot program / e-bikes on trails?	Safe trail use and proper etiquette	How and where do I report conflicts / crashes?
Brochures to retailers / other distribution areas and events				
E-bike specific signage on the trails				
Trail courtesy signage				
Press release				
FCTV Video				
Website information				
Social media				
Posters / flyers				
E-mail communications				
Trail pop-up events				
Other event outreach (e.g., Bike to Work Day, Open Streets)				
E-bike demo days				