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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, SEPTEMBER 19, 2017

NEWS RELEASE

Electric Bicycle (E-Bike) Pilot Program Begins

The City of Durango announces the initiation of the Electric Bicycle (E-Bike) Pilot Program, effective September 20, 2017. The duration of the Pilot Program will be up to one year and during this time, Class I and Class II electric bicycles that are low speed pedal-assist or throttle assisted two-wheeled bicycles equipped with an electric motor will be permitted on designated City trails. The designated multi-use hard surface trails are limited to the Animas River Trail including adjacent spur connections, Florida Road Trail and Goeglein Gulch Road Trail. Electric bicycles are not permitted on natural surface trails. E-Bike use of the natural surface commuter connector is limited to the snowcat connector on Chapman Hill linking Florida Road to Fort Lewis College.

Other electric recreational vehicles and devices are not permitted on City trails during the Pilot Program. During the trial period, City residents are encouraged to contact the Parks and Recreation Department at (970) 375-7321 or by email at rec@durangogov.org to provide information regarding the use of E-bikes on designated City trails.

At the completion of the E-Bike Pilot Program, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, Natural Lands Preservation Advisory Board and the Multi-Modal Advisory Board will convene in a joint meeting to evaluate the E-Bike Pilot Program to formulate a recommendation to the Durango City Council regarding the continuation or cessation of the program.

MORE

The City of Durango is also promoting City trail rules and etiquette to enhance the enjoyable experience of all trail users without adversely impacting the use of others. The City encourages respect of other trail users and adhering to the following local trail expectations:

- **Be Courteous.** All trail users should be respectful and aware of other users regardless of their mode, speed or level of skill. Dogs must be on a leash. Keep trails clean and safe by disposing of trash and animal waste in appropriate trash receptacles.
- **Be Predictable.** Travel in a consistent and predictable manner. Keep right and pass on left. Always look behind before changing positions on the trail.
- **Yield to Other Trail Users.** Yield to slower and on-coming traffic. Bicyclists yield to pedestrians; and bicyclists riding downhill yield to bicyclists riding uphill. Yielding the right-of-way requires slowing down to a safe speed, being prepared to stop, establishing communication and passing safely. When merging onto a multi-use hard surface trail, yield to others on the primary trail corridor.
- **Be Observable.** Provide an easy to hear warning before passing. Give a clear signal using voice (state “On your left”), bell or horn well before passing. Wear lights and reflective clothing at night. Wear only one ear bud if listening to devices.
- **Don’t Block the Trail.** When in a group or with your pets, move off the trail to avoid blocking the flow of other users. When stopping, trail users should move off the trail.
- **Control Your Speed.** Slow down and use caution when approaching other trail users and blind turns. Please keep speed under 10 mph on City hard surface trails.
- **Respect the Trail.** Stay on designated trails. Stay off natural surface trails that are wet or muddy. Avoid creating braided or social trails.
- **Yield to Horses.** All trail users yield to equestrians in open space areas where horses are allowed.

The City of Durango is also providing complimentary (free) bike bells at the Durango Community Recreation Center, Transit Center and by visiting the Park Rangers.

To view the map of pilot E-Bike trails, visit DurangoGov.org/ElectricBikes.

For additional information, please contact the Parks and Recreation Department at (970) 375-7321 or by email at rec@durangogov.org