



12:30 p.m. Item

TO: Board Operations Committee

FROM: David Zuckermann, Regional Interpretive and Recreation Services Manager
Kelsey Gielen, Acting Recreation Supervisor

DATE: May 9, 2017

SUBJECT: **Update on the Pleasanton Ridge Shuttle Program**

David Zuckermann, Regional Interpretive & Recreation Services Manager and Kelsey Gielen, Acting Recreation Supervisor, will provide an update to the Board Operations Committee on the Pleasanton Ridge Shuttle Program conducted by the Outdoor Recreation unit. The program, now in its fifth year, transports members of the public to the park's ridge top and allows them to hike down on their own during the months May through October. The presentation will cover the program's history and original goals, as well as review its attendance figures and operational challenges.

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12:45 p.m. Item

TO: Board Operations Committee
FROM: Alan Love, Special Operations Lieutenant, Public Safety
DATE: May 9, 2017
SUBJECT: **Update on Commercial Dog Walking Program**

Alan Love, Special Operations Lieutenant for the Police Department, will provide an update on the District's Commercial Dog Walking Program. The update will include the process for which Commercial Dog Walkers apply for a permit, the areas where Commercial Dog Walkers are permitted to walk dogs, as well as a review of commercial dog walking enforcement.

BACKGROUND

In September 2000, the East Bay Regional Park District Board adopted resolution 2000-09-215, which amended Ordinance 38 to allow for commercial dog walking in the District. The amendment to Ordinance 38 brought commercial dog walking in compliance with Ordinance 38-700.2, which allowed for other permitted activities within the District. Since the amendment, minor changes have occurred, such as in 2009, when language regarding the allowable dog walking areas was modified.

The update will provide an overview of the current program as well as offer items for consideration as the program moves forward.

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1:15 p.m. Item

TO: Board Operations Committee
FROM: Dan Cuning, Delta Area Unit Manager, Operations
DATE: May 9, 2017
SUBJECT: **Electric Bicycle Pilot Program Presentation**

Dan Cuning, Delta Areas Unit Manager, Operations will make a recommendation for a pilot study allowing the use of electric bicycles on specified East Bay Regional Park District Trails.

BACKGROUND

Due to increased developments in electric bicycle (E-Bike) technology, E-bikes have become more readily available and financially attainable in greater metropolitan areas of California. The adoption of State Assembly Bill 1096 (AB 1096), signed by Governor Jerry Brown in 2015, has further burgeoned E-bike usage, by allowing Class 1 & 2 E-bikes to operate on state maintained bike trails within the State of California. Per the bill, E-bikes are defined as “a bicycle with fully operable pedals and an electric motor of less than 750 watts.” AB 1096 has also changed the designation of E-bikes to be included as an alternate to non-motorized vehicles by the California Department of Motor Vehicles. AB 1096 designates local jurisdiction the authority to regulate the terms of E-bikes on their bike trails.

EBRPD has several regional trails that are arteries for regional transit. The trails are within close proximity to several BART stations, regional transit centers, business parks, and bus systems in both Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. The targeted pilot program will allow E-bike use on the Iron Horse, the Alameda Creek, and the Contra Costa Regional Trail. As consistent with state law, only Class 1 & 2 E-bikes will be allowed. EBRPD will monitor these trails to assess the impacts and usage of E-bikes in the duration of the pilot program, with the aid of interns, staff, and volunteers. All regional trail rules will remain in full effect during the pilot program period.

The proposal of an E-bike pilot study was presented at the April 24 Park Advisory Committee (PAC) meeting. Members of the committee expressed some apprehensiveness, primarily revolving around the enforcement of the pilot programs, safety, and possible impacts. One PAC committee member also expressed concern over outreach and the importance of communicating the study to communities along the trails of the study ahead of the pilot program launch. A Sierra Club representative voiced that though the Sierra Club is

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generally supportive of biking on paved trails and bicycle commuting, they are concerned about the District's ability to provide effective enforcement during the pilot program.

Ultimately, the PAC moved to endorse the pilot program, touting its value in providing increased access to communities with limited mobility, as well as the benefit to bicycle commuters specifically and to reducing traffic congestion generally. Because the pilot study includes trails such as the Iron Horse Trail, which serves as a corridor between business parks and BART stations, the PAC recognized that the pilot program may encourage more sustainable transit use and solve congestion issues related to local trips. Rick Rickard, as a representative of Bike East Bay, endorsed the study, while Julie Bueren, Public Works Director at Contra Costa County, stated that the pilot program "...really solves a lot of issues for people who don't have good mobility and want to use inexpensive transportation, and it (helps provide) the last mile for transit – which is the struggle for getting people on transit." Members of the PAC agreed that outreach to local organizations and enforcement will be instrumental in the study's success. The PAC explicitly stated that they are not endorsing the use of E-bikes on any other trails.

Staff recommends the initiation of an E-bike Pilot Program on the Iron Horse, Alameda Creek, and Contra Costa Regional Trails during the duration of July 1, 2017 until June 30, 2018. During this time, EBRPD will utilize interns and volunteer staff to perform user counts, monitor usage, and conduct surveys. A review and analysis of the pilot program will be brought forth at the end of the pilot program in 2018.