

**RESOLUTION OF THE BLAINE COUNTY RECREATION DISTRICT (BCRD)
REGARDING THE USE OF “E-BIKES,” HUMAN PROPELLED VEHICLES,
ALTERNATIVE ELECTRIC MOTORED VEHICLES, WHEELCHAIRS, &
OTHER POWER DRIVEN MOBILITY DEVICES (OPDMDS) ON THE WOOD
RIVER TRAIL MULTI USE PATH & CONNECTING MULTI USE PATHS IN
BLAINE COUNTY, IDAHO**

WHEREAS, the cities, communities, residents, and businesses of Blaine County desire a safe and connected public pathway system that offers healthy recreation resources and an active transportation option for all.

WHEREAS, a working group of representatives from the sub-committee of the Blaine County Regional Transportation Committee have assessed the technology and trends associated with “E-bikes” in both national and international markets.

WHEREAS, “e-bike” sales show exponential growth in both international and national marketplaces and “pedal assist” technology inherent in some “e-bikes” enables healthy, active recreation for more members of the community.

WHEREAS, there is exponential growth in the usage of alternative electric motored vehicles, both nationally and internationally, and there is limited local bicycle & pedestrian infrastructure to safely accommodate this usage other than the multi-use path system in Blaine County.

WHEREAS, an inventory and analysis was conducted on the public pathway system in Blaine County, which found multiple jurisdictions and statutes governing non-motorized usage on the same public pathways.

WHEREAS, the completed inventory and analysis indicated inconsistent statutory language between the different jurisdictions within Blaine County regarding the potential use and governance of “e-bikes” and other vehicles on the public pathway system.

WHEREAS, there is a clear need for consistency in statutory language, signage, enforcement, education and ongoing management of all usage, including “e-bikes” and other vehicles, across all the jurisdictions that govern and comprise the more than 35 miles of multi-use pathways in Blaine County.

WHEREAS, the Blaine County Recreation District has received significant public input regarding the use of “e-bikes” and other electric motored vehicles on the public pathway system and, in cooperation with Mountain Rides, has offered and hosted public forums to gather input on e-bike usage and share more information with the public of Blaine County.

WHEREAS, the Wood River Trail multi use path and its major connecting arteries offers close to 400,000 visits per year to both residents and visitors of Blaine County.

WHEREAS, a consideration for the safety of the various users of the multi-use pathway system and the related roads, sidewalks, and bicycle pedestrian infrastructure should be the most significant priority when considering adjustments or recommended change in the ordinances relative to vehicles on the multi-use path system of any kind in Blaine County.

WHEREAS, “e-bikes” enable healthy, outdoor activity for the disabled community and the community at large and special consideration should be made to enable “e-bikes,” OPDMDS, alternative electric motored vehicles, and wheelchairs to people with disabilities.

WHEREAS, all regulation or potential changes to statutory language governing usage of all vehicles on the multi-use pathways within Blaine County should be subject to any applicable easements on certain sections of the multi-use path system.

WHEREAS, the term “wheelchair” should be defined for the purposes of this resolution as a manually-operated or power-driven device designed primarily for use by an individual with a mobility disability for the main purpose of indoor or of both indoor and outdoor locomotion.

WHEREAS, an OPDMD or “other power driven mobility device” should be defined as any mobility device powered by batteries, whether or not designed primarily for use by individuals with mobility disabilities, that may be used by individuals with mobility disabilities for the purpose of locomotion.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF THE BLAINE COUNTY RECREATION DISTRICT, BLAINE COUNTY, IDAHO THAT: no person should operate any mechanical device, including a bicycle or other vehicle, on the multi-use path system at a speed inconsistent with specific jurisdiction signage or statute, greater than is reasonable, and prudent under the conditions and having regard to the actual and potential hazards then existing. Consistent with the foregoing, every person should operate a bicycle or any vehicle on the trail system at a safe and appropriate speed on approaching and crossing an intersection, when approaching and going around a curve, when approaching a hillcrest, when proceeding down a hill, when traveling upon a winding section of the trail system, and when special hazards exist with respect to pedestrians or other traffic or by reason of weather or other conditions of the trail system.

The Blaine County Recreation District supports the use on public “multi-use” pathways in Blaine County of “e-bikes” with electrical assist(s) totaling no more than 750 watts that: (i) enable speeds equal to or less than 20 miles per hour and (ii) disengage or cease to function when the vehicle’s brakes are applied and (iii) have two tandem wheels or two parallel wheels and one forward wheel, any two of which, are not less than twelve inches in diameter, provided operation of this “e-bike” is in accordance with all applicable regulations, statutes, easements or safety and speed parameters as outlined in this resolution. The BCRD resolves that an “e-bike” following these limitations and restrictions is not a motor vehicle for the purposes of this resolution.

The BCRD supports the use of alternative electric motored vehicles, including but not limited to electric scooters, electric skateboards, and “one wheels,” on the multi-use path system in Blaine County, provided (i) those devices have electrical assist(s) totaling no more than 750 watts and enabling speeds equal to or less than 20mph and (ii) operation of an electric motored vehicle is in accordance with all applicable regulations, statutes, easements or safety and speed parameters as outlined in this resolution.

The BCRD supports the use of wheelchairs and manually-powered mobility aides by individuals with mobility disabilities such as would qualify the user to obtain an Idaho State handicap parking permit or otherwise allowed under the Americans with Disabilities Act on the multi-use path system in Blaine County, provided operation of these vehicles is in accordance with all applicable regulations, statutes, easements or safety and speed parameters as outlined in this resolution.

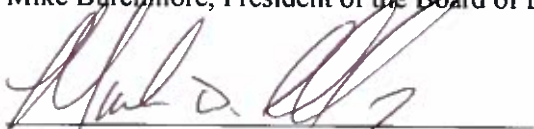
The BCRD supports the use of OPDMDS on the multi-use path system in Blaine County, provided (i) those devices have electrical assist(s) totaling no more than 750 watts and enabling speeds equal to or less than 20mph and (ii) operation of these vehicles is in accordance with all applicable regulations, statutes, easements or safety and speed parameters as outlined in this resolution.

The BCRD is resolved to work with all the Blaine County jurisdictions to facilitate a consistent set of statutes and policies regarding "e-bikes," human propelled vehicles, alternative electric motored vehicles, wheelchairs, and OPMDS on the public, multi-use pathways in Blaine County.

Blaine County Recreation District (BCRD)



Mike Burchmore, President of the Board of Directors



Mark Mary, Board of Directors



Mary Fauth, Board of Directors



Jim Keating, Secretary to Board of Directors

Date: September 10, 2018

