

Multi-use Trail Pilot Project

E-Bikes, Speed Limits, and Education



Sustainability and Transportation Committee

Presenter: Todd Burley

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Seattle
Parks & Recreation

The Situation on Our Multi-use Trails



- No speed limit
- No motorized vehicles
- Shared use
- Multiple jurisdictions
- Limited signs
- Limited enforcement

Safety: many complaints of user conflicts, especially about speed

Clarity: users unsure of what is allowed and what isn't

Consistency: trail managers have inconsistent regulations

Enforcement: limited to no enforcement along trail

The Reality of Changing Use



People are biking more:

Bicycle use downtown tripled between 1992-2011.

376,000 riders on Burke-Gilman Trail in 2017.

392,000 riders on Elliott Bay Trail in 2017.

Biking is healthy, affordable, and sustainable transportation.



E-bike use is on the rise:

Sales up 450% nationally since 2013.

Attractive in hilly Seattle as bike infrastructure improves.



Bike share growing & includes e-bikes:

There were nearly 500,000 bike share trips from July-Dec.

E-bikes used 3X more than regular bikes.

Lime E soon to be 40% of fleet, with Spin adding soon.

Seattle Parks Pilot Project



Five Multi-use Trails

1. Burke-Gilman Trail
2. Duwamish Trail
3. Elliott Bay Trail
4. Melrose Connector Trail
5. Mountains to Sound Trail

Summer 2018 – Summer 2019



Seattle Parks Pilot Project

Speed Limit: 15 mph speed limit for all users



Allow E-Bikes: Allow Class 1 and Class 2 electric bikes



Education: Safety campaign with SDOT



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Questions?



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