



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

5510 OVERLAND AVENUE, SUITE 270, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92123
(858) 565-3600
www.sdparks.org

JASON HEMMENS
DIRECTOR

Electric Bike Fact Sheet

General Information

The State of California passed Assembly Bill 1096 and 1909 which defines electric bicycles with electric motors of 750 watts or less, also known as e-bikes, as bicycles that have fully operative pedals by human power with an electric motor.

Electric bicycles have increased in popularity, often being used for commuting, general transportation, and recreational uses. E-bike can assist riders who may need additional assistance on uphill rides and increase access to the health benefits of cycling.

CLASS 1	Pedal Assist System (PAS)	Motor Powered Speed Limit (MPSL) 20 MPH
CLASS 2	PAS and Throttle Element	MPSL 20 MPH
CLASS 3	PAS	MPSL 28 MPH

The legislation prohibits the operation of Class 3 electric bicycles except on specified paths, lanes, or trails unless authorized by a local ordinance. The County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) would need to approve the use of Class 3 electric bicycles in parks and preserves on a case-by-case basis, and only on trails designated by the approved authority.

Class 1 and 2 electric bicycles are permitted on all County of San Diego paved pathways and trails where bicycles are permitted unless specifically restricted by DPR for safety and maintenance concerns. All electric bicycles must have a classification number label permanently affixed, in a prominent location, on each electric bicycle as required by the State of California. Class 3 electric bicycles are not permitted on trails but are allowed on park roads and must follow all motorized vehicle regulations.

Class 3 electric bicycles are more powerful motorized electric bicycles that do not have wattage limits and are not defined by the same classifications. Class 3 electric bicycles are not permitted on County of San Diego trails.

The DPR parks and trails listed below are closed to use by all classes of electric bicycles.

- Lindo Lake County Park Skate Park
- Jess Martin County Park Skate Park
- Ramona Grasslands Old Survey Road 97 Trail
- Sweetwater Bike Park
- Valley Center Community Park Skate Park

