



PROS Electric Assisted Bicycle Policy

Department: Community Services	Division: PROS
Effective Date: 3/1/2021	
Approving Authority: Director-Wake County Parks, Recreation, and Open Space	

- I. **Purpose:** Wake County Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) provides outdoor recreation and educational opportunities while promoting environmental and cultural stewardship through a managed system of parks and open spaces. These facilities are located throughout the County and provide bike trails ranging from “Bike Only” to “Multi-Use”. The increased use of “Electric Assisted Bicycles” (Ebikes) and other nontraditional vehicles have created a need to accurately state what is allowed and not allowed on all trails that are designated for bicycle use.

II. **Policy Statement:**

- “Electric Assisted Bicycles” as defined in the NC General Statutes (see definition section below) will be considered bicycles and will therefore be allowed on all trails that pedal powered bicycles are allowed on.
- “Electric Personal Assistive Mobility Devices” as defined in the NC General Statutes (see definition section below) are allowed on all trails that pedal powered bicycles are allowed on.
- Any other vehicle that does not meet the NC General Statutes for “Bicycle”, “Electric Assisted Bicycle” or “Electric Personal Assistive Mobility Device” will be considered a “Motor Vehicle” and not allowed on bicycle trails.

III. **Definitions:**

Motor Vehicle

a. NC GS 20-4.01 23

- i. Every vehicle which is self-propelled
- ii. Every vehicle designed to run upon the highways which is pulled by a self-propelled vehicle.
- iii. Except as specifically provided otherwise, this term shall not include mopeds or electric assisted bicycles.

Bicycle

b. NC GS 20-171.1

- i. A nonmotorized vehicle
- ii. two or three wheels tandem,
- iii. a steering handle
- iv. one or two saddle seats
- v. pedals by which the vehicle is propelled, or an electric assisted bicycle, as defined in G.S. 20-4.01(7a)

c. NC GS 20-171.8.

- i. Human-powered vehicle
- ii. Two wheels in tandem
- iii. Designed to transport, by the action of pedaling, one or more persons seated on one or more saddle seats on its frame.
- iv. More than two wheels where the vehicle is used on a public roadway, public bicycle path, or other public right-of-way
- v. Does not include a tricycle

Electric Assisted Bicycle

d. NC GS 20-4.01 7a

- i. A bicycle with two or three wheels
- ii. Equipped with a seat or saddle for use by the rider
- iii. Has fully operable pedals for human propulsion
- iv. Has an electric motor of no more than 750 watts
- v. Whose maximum speed on a level surface when powered solely by such a motor is no greater than 20 miles per hour.

Electric Personal Assistive Mobility Devices

e. NC GS 20-4.01 7b

- i. Self-balancing
- ii. Non-tandem
- iii. two-wheeled device
- iv. designed to transport one person
- v. a propulsion system that limits the maximum speed of the device to 15 miles per hour or less.

Applicability: This policy applies to all parks that allow bicycles to be ridden on their grounds.

V. Policy Responsibility and Management:

- The Park Manager and Assistant Park Managers will be responsible for implementing and enforcing this policy.
- All employees are expected to adhere to this policy.
- New employees will be trained on this policy by the Park Manager upon hire by reviewing this document. Existing employees will be trained on this policy if it is updated or changed.

VI. Related Policies, Procedures, and Publications:

- North Carolina General Statute 20-4.01
https://www.ncleg.gov/enactedlegislation/statutes/pdf/bysection/chapter_20/gs_20-4.01.pdf
- North Carolina General Statute 20-171.1
https://www.ncleg.gov/enactedlegislation/statutes/pdf/bysection/chapter_20/gs_20-171.1.pdf
- North Carolina General Statute 20-171.8

https://www.ncleg.gov/enactedlegislation/statutes/pdf/bysection/chapter_20/gs_20-171.8.pdf

VII. Appendices: N/A

VIII. History:

Effective Date	Version	Section(s) Revised	Author
3/1/2021	1	Document Creation	Ashley Subat