



DATE: May 22, 2018

CATEGORY: Consent

DEPT.: Community Services

TITLE: **Amendment to Ordinance Permitting Electric Skateboards on Trails**

RECOMMENDATION

Introduce an Ordinance Amending Chapter 38 of the Mountain View City Code, Regulating the Use of City Parks and Other City Facilities, Article IV, Regulating the Use of City Trails, to Amend Section 38.201 and Permit Electronic Skateboards on Trails, to be read in title only, further reading waived, and set a second reading for June 12, 2018 (Attachment 1 to the Council report).

BACKGROUND

In November 2013, the Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) recommended that staff evaluate allowing zero-emission, multimodal forms of transportation on City trails. Due to the California Vehicle Code prohibition of motorized skateboards on Class I trails, staff focused on then-permitted forms of zero-emission transportation. When the California Vehicle Code was updated in the fall of 2016 to include a separate designation for electric skateboards, staff brought the recommendation to Council on November 22, 2016 to allow electric skateboards for a one-year trial period beginning January 16, 2017. The one-year trial period amendment was adopted by Council.

ANALYSIS

The goal of the one-year trial period was to assess the safety of trail users with the addition of electric skateboards. Staff has seen a large increase of electric skateboard use over the past year with Rangers noting daily use, mainly for commute purposes. During this time frame, there was no communication received from the public regarding electric skateboards within Mountain View; however, Rangers have been asked by the public if electric skateboards are permitted on several occasions. Rangers have informed trail users of the one-year trial period and there were only a few comments that people felt unsafe around the boards because of the high speed. No formal complaints or recorded incidents with electric skateboards have been reported

over the last year on the trail system. Based on input from the public, and observations from staff and Rangers during the one-year trial period, staff recommends permitting the use of electric skateboards as defined by the California Vehicle Code on an ongoing basis on City trails.

NEXT STEPS

Should Council approve the amended ordinance, a second reading will be set for June 12, 2018.

FISCAL IMPACT – None.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Prohibit electric skateboards on City trails.
2. Continue the trial period for an additional year for electric skateboards on City trails.

PUBLIC NOTICING – Agenda posting.

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Attachment: 1. Ordinance