

PRC 26-07 Community Engagement Plan for E-Bike Regulations in Parks

March 26, 2026



Agenda

- Background
- Community Engagement Plan
- Next Steps
- Commissioner Input



Background

- **May 2025:** City Council amended the 2025-2026 Work Plan to include the development of an ordinance regulating the operation of e-bikes and e-motorcycles on the Island.
- **November 2025:** Staff conducted a study session with the PRC and the OSCT to discuss regulations for e-bikes and e-scooters in parks and open spaces.
- **January 2026:** Staff returned to the PRC and the OSCT to discuss a proposed policy for e-bike regulations in parks and open spaces. More information and community engagement was requested as a result of this meeting.

Community Engagement Plan

- Per the guidance of the PRC & OSCT, the City will conduct an outreach campaign to engage the community on the development of e-bike regulations that includes:
 - Let's Talk page
 - An online survey
 - In-person engagement opportunities
 - Promotion across various City channels

Let's Talk

- The City will create a Let's Talk page to share information about the development of e-bike regulations.
- The Let's Talk page will contain a general project overview, a timeline, and opportunities for engagement.



LET'S TALK
MERCER ISLAND

Survey

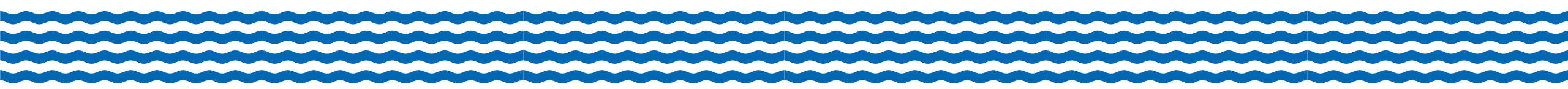
- The City will conduct a survey about:
 - The community's use of City parks, athletic fields, and trails,
 - The operation of e-bikes, &
 - Perceptions of proposed regulations.
- The questions will largely follow the 2022 statewide survey on E-Bike Use on DNR- and WDFW-Managed Lands.
- The survey will go live in April and be open through the end of August.



In-Person Engagement

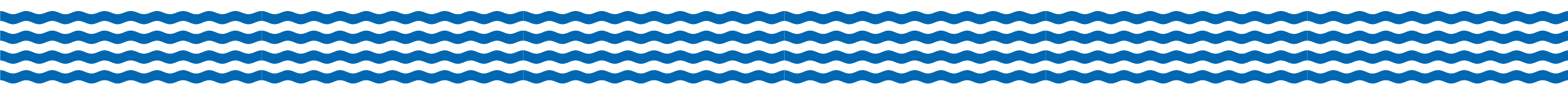
- Commissioners and staff will attend ~5 events to engage directly with the community, dependent on Commissioner availability.
- The City will use activities, like sticky dot boards and chalk board questions, to collect input and start conversations.

Date	Day	Event
5/15/2026	Friday	Bike to Work Day
7/11/2026	Saturday	Summer Celebration
8/4/2026	Tuesday	National Night Out
TBD	Sunday	Farmer's Market
TBD	Thursday	Mostly Music in the Park



Project Promotion

- The development of e-bike regulations will be promoted on social media, the MI Weekly, and other City-distributed newsletters.
- Boards will be placed at key park locations informing community members of the project and directing them to project materials.



Next Steps

- Staff will present on this topic at the April Open Space Conservancy Trust meeting.
- Staff anticipate that the Let's Talk page and survey will go live in April. Staff will promote the survey on City social media pages, in the MI Weekly, and in other City-distributed newsletters.
- Commissioners and staff will attend in-person events through the spring and summer to engage directly with community members.
- Staff will return in Fall 2026 to present findings from the community engagement efforts and restart the development of e-bike regulations in parks and open spaces.

Commissioner Input

- What information do Commissioners need from the community to develop regulations for e-bikes?
- Are there specific populations Commissioners would like staff to engage with?
- Are there other opportunities for engagement Commissioners would like to see?

