



Mission statement of McKinleyville Community Services District:
"McKinleyville Community Services District provides authorized services fundamental to the health and well-being of the community."

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MCKINLEYVILLE COMMUNITY FOREST TRAILS, INFRASTRUCTURE, CLEAN-UPS
AND SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE
WILL BE HELD
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2024 AT 5:00pm**

**LOCATION: MCSD Conference Room
1656 Sutter Road
McKinleyville, California**

**TELECONFERENCE Via ZOOM & TELEPHONE:
Use ZOOM MEETING ID: 823 7786 4085 (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82377864085>)
or DIAL IN TOLL FREE: 1-669-444-9171 (No Password Required!)**

**AGENDA
5:00 p.m.**

- I. a. Call to Order
b. Roll Call
c. Flag Salute
- II. Approval of the Agenda
- III. Approval of Minutes from October 29, 2024 Meeting
Attachment 1 – October 29, 2024 Draft Meeting Minutes P. 3
- IV. Public Comment

*Any person may address the Subcommittee at this time upon any subject not identified on this Agenda but within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee; however, any matter that requires action will be referred to staff for a report of action at a subsequent Subcommittee meeting. As to matters on the Agenda, an opportunity will be given to address the Subcommittee when the matter is considered. **Comments are limited to 3 minutes.** Letters should be used for complex issues.*

- V. Welcome to MCFC Subcommittee Public Members (Information) P. 7
- VI. Discuss and Consider Selection of Subcommittee Chairperson, P. 9

Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary (Action)

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| VII. | Discuss Draft Infrastructure Projects and Project Ranking (Information) | P.11 |
| | Attachment 1 – Draft Infrastructure Project List | P. 13 |
| VIII. | Discuss Rule 47.02 of MCSD Rules & Regulations Concerning Use of Electric Bicycles in Community Forest (Information) | P. 15 |
| | Attachment 1 – Email from Kevin Creed with Suggested Language for Rule 47.02 | P. 19 |
| IX. | Discuss December's Subcommittee Meeting Date & Time | |
| X. | Committee Announcements & Future Agenda Items | |
| XI. | Adjournment (Estimated 6:00 p.m.) | |

Posted 5:00 pm on November 22, 2024

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.5, this agenda and complete packet are available for public inspection on the web at <https://mckinleyvillecsd.ca.gov/mcfc-trails-infrastructure-clean-ups-and-security-subcommittee-tics> or upon request at the MCSD office, 1656 Sutter Road, McKinleyville. If you would like to receive the complete packet via email, free of charge, contact the Board Secretary at (707)839-3251 to be added to the mailing list.

McKinleyville Community Services District will, on request, make agendas available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. Individuals who need this agenda in an alternative format or who need a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in the meeting should contact the Board Secretary at (707) 839-3251. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make reasonable arrangements for accommodations.

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MCKINLEYVILLE COMMUNITY FOREST TRAILS, INFRASTRUCTURE, CLEAN-UPS AND SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2024 at 5:00 P.M. IN PERSON AT THE MCSD OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM – 1656 SUTTER ROAD, MCKINLEYVILLE, CALIFORNIA and TELECONFERENCE Via ZOOM & TELEPHONE: Use ZOOM MEETING ID: 859 8670 1374 (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85986701374>) or DIAL IN TOLL FREE: 1-669-444-9171 (No Password Required!)

I.a Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

I.b Roll Call: The following members and staff were in attendance in person at the MCSD Conference Room:

James Henry, MCSD Operations Director
Jens Andersen, Recreation Coordinator
Tyler Brown
Michele Stephens
Nicole West

The following members attended via Zoom:

Christopher Collier

The following members were absent:

Desiree Early Dorvall

1.c Flag Salute: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Michele Stephens

II. Approval of the Agenda

Motion: It was moved to approve the Agenda

Motion by: Stephens **Second:** Brown

There were no comments from the subcommittee or public.

Roll Call: Ayes: Henry, Andersen, Brown, Stephens, Collier, West Nays: None Absent: Dorvall

Motion Summary: Motion passed.

III. Public Comment

Operations Director Henry acknowledged the written public comments submitted by Karen Dorman and Kevin Creed that were distributed with the packet

Public Comment was given by the following individuals:

Kevin Creed, McKinleyville Resident
Chris Johnson, McKinleyville Resident

IV. Update on MCFC Subcommittee Applications

The item was presented by Recreation Coordinator Andersen. There were no comments from the public.

This was an information only item. No action taken.

V. Discuss and Consider Selection of Subcommittee Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary

The item was presented by Operations Director Henry. Committee discussion ensued.

Motion: It was moved to delay the selection of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary until next months meeting after the pending public members are officially appointed.

Motion by: Brown **Second:** West

There were no comments from the subcommittee or public.

Roll Call: Ayes: Henry, Andersen, Brown, Stephens, Collier, West Nays: None Absent: Dorvall

Motion Summary: Motion passed

VI. Discussion on Future Meeting Hybrid Options

The item was presented by Recreation Coordinator Andersen. Committee discussion ensued.

Motion: It was moved to approve the addition of hybrid meetings as an option for future committee meetings.

Motion by: Stephens **Second:** West

There were no comments from the subcommittee or public.

Roll Call: Ayes: Henry, Andersen, Brown, Stephens, Collier, West Nays: None Absent: Dorvall

Motion Summary: Motion passed

VII. Review of Mountain Bike Tribal Trails Alliance and Redwood Coast Mountain Bike Association Memorandums of Understanding

The item was presented by Recreation Coordinator Andersen. Committee discussion ensued.

Motion: It was moved to approve staff recommendation to review the information provided, discuss, take Public Comment and make a recommendation to the Community Forest Committee to support the MOUs and to recommend that the MCSD Board adopt Resolution 2024-21 affirming Board support of the executed Memorandums of Understanding with the Redwood Coast Mountain Bike Association and the Mountain Bike Tribal Trail Alliance.

Motion by: Brown **Second:** West

There were no comments from the subcommittee or public.

Roll Call: Ayes: Henry, Andersen, Brown, Stephens, Collier, West Nays: None Absent: Dorvall

Motion Summary: Motion passed

VII. Update on Murray Road Automatic Gate Sign and Trail Signs and Discussion of Districts Naming Policy and How it Relates to Trail Naming

The item was presented by Operations Director Henry. There were no comments from the public.

This was an information only item. No action taken.

IX Committee Announcements & Future Agenda Items

The Item was presented by Operations Director Henry. Committee discussion ensued.

The following items were proposed as future agenda items:

Discuss and consider the approval of McKinleyville Resident Kevin Creed’s proposal of amending Rule 47.02 of the MCSD Rules and Regulations regarding E-bikes.

Discuss and consider the establishment of a liaison between this subcommittee and the Arcata Community Forest.

Explore tasks that the TICS committee can pursue without the need of extra funding.

Discuss and establish a list of committee goals and objectives.

G. ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting Adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Mason Hooven, Recreation Coordinator

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McKinleyville Community Services District

MCKINLEYVILLE COMMUNITY FOREST COMMITTEE

TRAILS, INFRASTRUCTURE, CLEAN-UP AND SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE

November 26, 2024

TYPE OF ITEM: **INFORMATION**

ITEM: V **Welcome to MCFC Subcommittee Public Members**

PRESENTED BY: **Jens Andersen, MCSD Recreation Coordinator**

TYPE OF ACTION: **Information**

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Committee consider the information provided, air questions and take public comment regarding the appointment of the new members to the Trails, Infrastructure, Clean-Up and Security Subcommittee (TICS) members for a term of one year.

Discussion:

The McKinleyville Community Forest Committee (MCFC) vetted and selected the most qualified candidates to become members of the Trails, Infrastructure, Clean-Up and Security Subcommittee. During the November 19th MCFC meeting, the committee voted to recommend appointing the following applicants to the TICS Subcommittee:

1. Charlie Caldwell
2. Kenneth Burton
3. Phil Heidrick
4. Shaun Fyfe
5. Justin Brown
6. Nancy Morelli (Alternate)

Since the MCSD Board appointed the five applicants listed above and one alternate, the applicants will become voting members. An informational binder will be provided to the newly appointed members. Subcommittee members will serve through December 2025.

Alternatives:

Not applicable

Fiscal Analysis:

Not applicable

Environmental Requirements:

Not applicable

Exhibits/Attachments:

Not applicable

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McKinleyville Community Services District

McKinleyville Community Forest Committee

TRAILS, INFRASTRUCTURE, CLEAN-UP AND SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE

November 26, 2024

TYPE OF ITEM: **ACTION**

ITEM: VI **Discuss and Consider Selection of Subcommittee
Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary**

PRESENTED BY: **James Henry, Operations Director**

TYPE OF ACTION: **Roll Call**

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Subcommittee review the information provided, discuss, take public comment, and select a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary to serve through December 2025.

Discussion:

The Subcommittee should discuss and consider who will be appointed as Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary for the Trails, Infrastructure, Clean-up, and Security Subcommittee. The role descriptions are as follows:

Chairperson - The Chairperson is the presiding officer and is responsible for leadership at meetings and for exerting every effort to unite the subcommittee into a working, cohesive group by preserving order and decorum.

Vice-Chairperson - In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson shall perform the Chairperson's duties. When the Chairperson disqualifies themselves from participating in an agenda item or declares themselves conflicted in the debate on any such item, the Vice-Chairperson shall perform the duties of the presiding officer.

Secretary – The Secretary's role is to ensure the Subcommittee's activities are documented and communicated effectively. The Secretary shall be responsible for the taking and preparation of meeting minutes to be approved by the subcommittee at the following regular meeting.

The members appointed to these roles shall serve for the remainder of 2024 and the duration of the 2025 calendar year.

Alternatives:

- Take no action

Fiscal Analysis:

Not applicable

Environmental Requirements:

Not applicable

Exhibits/Attachments:

Not applicable

McKinleyville Community Services District

McKinleyville Community Forest Committee

TRAILS, INFRASTRUCTURE, CLEAN-UP AND SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE

November 26, 2024

TYPE OF ITEM: **INFORMATION**

ITEM: VII **Discuss Draft Infrastructure Projects and Project Ranking**

PRESENTED BY: **James Henry, Operations Director**

TYPE OF ACTION: **Roll Call**

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Subcommittee review the information provided, discuss, take public comment, and consider bringing any other project ideas to a future meeting.

Discussion:

At the last TICS subcommittee meeting, the subcommittee requested a list of projects that could be worked on currently and that do not require funding. The Forest Committee has also asked for a list of projects to incorporate into the budget. District staff has created a Draft list of projects with rankings and would like the committee to review the Draft list and come up with any other projects at a future meeting.

Alternatives:

- Take no action

Fiscal Analysis:

Not applicable

Environmental Requirements:

Not applicable

Exhibits/Attachments:

Attachment 1 - Draft Infrastructure Project List

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**MCKINLEYVILLE COMMUNITY FOREST TRAILS, INFRASTRUCTURE, CLEAN-UPS
AND SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE**

DRAFT Infrastructure Projects and Project Ranking

Project	Ranking	Estimated cost
Install Cameras at various locations		
Rules and Regs Sign locations and verbiage		
Trail signs, locations, verbiage & numbering/naming		
Murray Road parking lot – Phase 1 development		
Murray Road parking lot – Phase 2 development		
Dog bag dispensers		
Bear Garbage cans		
Porta potties		
Trail layout		
Utility vehicle side x side and storage		
Gravel for trails		
Benches		
Picnic Tables		
First Road access and parking lot		
Stream Crossing improvements		
Tree planting & other revegetation		
Invasive species removal		
Fences or gates to block access at non-access points		
Trail abandonments		
Erosion control assessment/remediation		
Homeless encampment/garbage cleanups		
Restrooms		
Drinking Fountains/Water Bottle Filling Station		
Disc Golf Course?		
Group Picnic Area/Covered Picnic Area?		
Playground?		
Ropes Course?		

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McKinleyville Community Services District

McKinleyville Community Forest Committee

TRAILS, INFRASTRUCTURE, CLEAN-UP AND SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE

November 26, 2024

TYPE OF ITEM: **INFORMATION**

ITEM: VIII **Discuss Rule 47.02 of MCSD Rules & Regulations Concerning Use of Electric Bicycles in Community Forest**

PRESENTED BY: **James Henry, Operations Director**

TYPE OF ACTION: **Informational Only**

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Subcommittee review the information provided, discuss, take public comment, and discuss next steps for the update of Rule 47.02. Note that this is an Information item only and so formal edits to Rule 47.02 cannot be approved of at this meeting, but suggested edits can be taken to the next TICS Meeting for recommendation to take to the MCFC for review.

Discussion:

Rule 47.02 of the District's Rules & Regulations states:

RULE 47.02. MOTORIZED AND ELECTRIC VEHICLE USE PROHIBITED- Public recreation use of the Community Forest Property does not include use or operation of any motorized or electric vehicle. Recreational use must be done via pedestrian use, non-motorized/non-electric bicycle or horseback. Operation of non-motorized vehicles within the community forest property must comply with existing Rule 41.04 of these Rules & Regulations.

When the MCSD Board adopted this and the other Rules and Regulations establishing the Community Forest, it was made clear that this portion of the Rules and Regs would be taken back to the TICS and full MCFC for review and recommendations. The use of motorized vehicles in the Community Forest is prohibited by the grant and cannot be changed. The grant agreement states:

Grant Funds are to be used for non-motorized recreational infrastructure development and enhancements that promote new or alternate access to parks, waterways, outdoor recreational pursuits, and forested or other natural environments to encourage health-related active transportation and opportunities for Californians to reconnect with nature as referenced in the Recreational Trails and Greenways Grant Program Application Guidelines and this Agreement.

The Greenways Grant Guidelines state:

Grantee is responsible for ensuring the project complies with all applicable local, state and federal laws and regulations, including, but not limited to: allowable uses of proposed trail including e-bike uses, CEQA/NEPA, legal requirements for construction, building codes, health and safety codes, state contractor's and other licenses, and disabled access laws.

Non-motorized Trail – means a trail designated for recreational purposes such as walking/ hiking, bicycling, equestrian use and other non-motorized recreational uses.

e-bike – a bicycle that can be run on electric power as well as by pedaling

The above suggest that e-bikes can be used in the Community Forest without violating the grant agreement.

The Arcata Community Forest, Forest Management Plan Standards state:

2. (S) Motorized vehicles are prohibited in the forests except forest management, public safety or for research purposes approved by the City. The definition of motorized vehicles includes gas powered machines and electric bikes (E-bikes or pedal assist bikes) except for Class I bikes that are not capable of speeds greater than 20 MPG.

The McKay Trail Plan Standards State:

Mountain Bikers have diverse interests based on age and skill level. Desired routes for biking will vary from gentle and easy to strenuous and challenging. Travel speeds will vary from less than two mph to over ten mph. Experienced bikers will seek more remote, less travelled trails with complexity and technical trail features. Trail designs for mountain bikers can range from “open and flowing,” with gentle slopes, gradual turns, and long sightlines, to “tight and technical,” with sharper turns, narrower tread, and natural obstacles (IMBA, 2004; IMBA/BLM, 2018). Proper transitions between trail sections with different types of flow are important.

A new development during the last five to ten years is the increased use of electric motor-assisted bicycles (also known as “e-bikes”). Electric mountain bikes are sometimes called “e-MTBs.” An e-bike operates at relatively low speeds with a low-power electric motor to assist in pedaling. Ebikes are considered consumer products rather than motor vehicles (such as mopeds and motorcycles). An e-bike has fully operable pedals and an electric motor less than 750 Watts. Three classes of e-bike have been designated in California based on motor speed and the level of electric assist. Class 1 e-bikes have motor assist only when the rider is pedaling, and assistance stops when the bike reaches 20 miles per hour. Class 2 e-bikes can be propelled by the motor alone without pedaling, up to a speed of 20 miles per hour. Class 3 e-bikes have motor assist

only when the rider is pedaling, and assistance stops when the bike reaches 28 miles per hour.

One of the benefits of e-bikes is they expand opportunities for biking especially for people who are older or have physical disabilities. Potential concerns about e-bikes include safety, trail impacts, and social impacts (noise and nuisance). In 2017, the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) released the following position statement:

IMBA is supportive of Class 1 eMTB access to non-motorized trails when the responsible land management agency, in consultation with local mountain bikers, deem such eMTB access is appropriate and will not cause any loss of access to non-motorized bikes. IMBA recognizes that changes in design, technology and the numbers of eMTB users is evolving, and believes these bikes can be managed in a sustainable way for both the environment and other trail users.

Attachment 1 is an email from Kevin Creed with his suggestions for edits to Rule 47.02.

Alternatives:

- Take no action

Fiscal Analysis:

Not applicable

Environmental Requirements:

Not applicable

Exhibits/Attachments:

Attachment 1 – Email from Kevin Creed with Suggested Language for Rule 47.02

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Date: (DRAFT, 10/16/24)

To: McKinleyville Community Forest Subcommittee
Trails/Infrastructure/Security

From: Kevin Creed
McKinleyville Resident

Subject: Proposal to Allow Electric Bikes in the McKinleyville Community Forest

I am submitting this proposal for your consideration in making it an agenda item for the subcommittee to discuss, modify, etc., and hopefully vote in favor of it. Likewise, the subcommittee would send it to the McKinleyville Forest Committee for potential approval and, subsequently, that committee would submit it to the MCSD Board of Directors for final approval.

Issue

MCSD Rule 47.02, as amended in Ordinance 2024-01, reads as follows:

‘RULE 47.02. MOTORIZED AND ELECTRIC VEHICLE USE PROHIBITED Public recreation use of the Community Forest Property does not include use or operation of any motorized or electric vehicle. Recreational use must be done via pedestrian use, non-motorized/non-electric bicycle or horseback. Operation of non-motorized vehicles within the community forest property must comply with existing Rule 41.04 of these Rules & Regulations.’

Concerns

Rule 47.02, as currently written, prohibits E-bikes and, consequently, excludes a growing number of bike riders that could otherwise be McKinleyville Community Forest (MCF) users. For some of these potential forest users an E-bike provides the only viable means to access and enjoy the MCF due to their limited mobility restrictions that cannot be overcome by other means.

E-bikes (class 1 and class 2) are allowed everywhere non-motorized bikes are allowed in the jurisdictions listed below.

- City of Arcata; Arcata Community Forest
- Green Diamond Resource Company; Hatchery Ridge Trails, Blue Lake; McKay Tract, Eureka; other GDRC properties
- Bureau of Land Management; Lacks Creek Management Area
- City of Flagstaff, AZ;
- Maricopa County, AZ
- Boulder County, CO
- Santa Clara County Parks, CA
- California State Parks, per approval by individual park Superintendent;
- Henry Coe State Park, CA; E-bike full access (second largest park in California system)

The prohibition of E-bikes in the MCF is a significant inconsistency given how more broadly E-bikes are allowed. Wouldn't it be great if McKinleyville residents who own or otherwise depend on an E-bike could just ride from their home and into the MCF? Now they (and their money) must go to Arcata or Blue Lake to enjoy that experience.

Of the total number of upper end mountain bikes sold locally, the percentage of those that are electric mountain bikes on an annual basis ranges from roughly 25-80%. This is consistent with national trends in E-bike purchases, i.e., the relative amount of E-bike sales has increased compared to non-electric bikes. Consequently, the number of individuals who potentially have a desire to ride in the MCF is expectedly going to increase.

In my opinion, the assumed safety risk that electric bikes pose to other trail users, versus non-motorized bikes, is misplaced based on an incorrect understanding of safety risks and an incomplete understanding of electric bikes. The actual risks posed by all bikes to other trail users, not just E-bikes, originates with the individual bike rider behavior, not with the bike itself. It is hazardous rider behavior with disregard for the safety of other trail users that is the real risk. Therefore, prohibiting electric bikes is a misdirected restriction with no compelling or rational basis.

Opportunities

MCSD has an amazing opportunity to evolve the MCF into a model community forest that attracts a wide diversity of users while operating with sustainable environmental protection and timber harvest practices. The wider the diversity of users to the forest, the wider the overall support for the community forest will be.

An amendment to Rule 47.02 can be the first logical step to attract this growing potential community forest user group. This proposal includes amended language for 47.02 as noted below. This proposal additionally suggests additional language to provide greater clarity.

'RULE 47.02. MOTORIZED AND ELECTRIC VEHICLE USE PROHIBITED

Public recreation use of the Community Forest Property does not include use or operation of any motorized or electric vehicle. For the purpose of this rule, electric bicycles are not considered electric vehicles.

RULE 47.02.1 ELECTRIC BIKES

DEFINITIONS

Electric Bike: Bike with a battery-powered motor that provides some level of assistance to the rider. (AKA E-Bike)

Classifications of E-Bikes*

1) A "class 1 electric bicycle" is a bicycle equipped with a motor (max power 750W**) that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.

2) A "class 2 electric bicycle" is a bicycle equipped with a motor (max power 750W) that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle, and that is not capable of providing assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour.

3) A “class 3 electric bicycle” is a bicycle equipped with a motor (max power 750W) that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 28 miles per hour, and is equipped with a speedometer [*source is: PeopleForBikes, national bike advocate organization]

4) E-Moto bikes: Are electric motorcycles with a power rating of 7,500 Watts and a top speed of 50 mph. (prohibited in the MCF)

RULE 47.02.2 RECREATIONAL USAGE

Recreational use must be done via pedestrian use, non-motorized or electric bikes (Class 1 or 2 only) ~~non-electric bicycle~~ or horseback.

Electric bikes Class 1 & 2 are allowed on all trails where non-electric bikes are allowed; and, Class 1 & 2 electric bikes are not allowed where non-electric bikes are prohibited.

Class 3 bikes, all other electric bikes with greater than 1 horsepower/750 watts and E-Moto bikes are prohibited in the McKinleyville Community Forest.

Trail Etiquette

Bicyclists (non-motorized and electric bikes) yield to hikers and horses

Hikers yield to horses



----- end of proposed rule amendment -----

Through the process of developing these proposed rule changes, an active constructive exchange of ideas can be catalyzed between different user groups such as cyclists, hikers and equestrians. And this networking can continue to prove productive in the long term evolution of the community forest.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this proposal.