

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-__

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA, RESTRICTING THE OPERATION OF ELECTRIC BICYCLES ON SIDEWALKS, MULTI-USE PATHS AND TRAIL NETWORKS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature, in this past session, amended Sections 316.008 Florida Statutes, and Section 316.20655, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, Section 316.008 provides the authority of local government to regulate electric bicycles on sidewalks; and

WHEREAS, Section 316.20655 provides for local government jurisdictions to prohibit the operation of electric bicycles on multi-use paths and trail networks; and

WHEREAS, Friends of the Amelia Island Trail, Inc. have petitioned the Board of County Commissioners to address electric bicycles on sidewalks and trails; and

WHEREAS, the Friends of the Amelia Island Trail, Inc. have indicated that the utilization of electric bicycles on sidewalks and trails create safety problems for users of the sidewalks and trails; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners finds that electric bicycles on sidewalks and trails would create significant safety issues for regular bicyclists, walkers and joggers due to the speed of the electric bicycles.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, it is hereby ordained that:

1. **Title**: This Ordinance shall be known as the “Electric Bicycle Restriction Ordinance”.
2. **Purpose**: The purpose of this Ordinance is to protect “regular” bicycle users, walkers and joggers from electric bicycles that generate higher rates of speed.

3. **Restrictions:** The use of electric bicycles, as defined by Florida Statutes, is prohibited on county sidewalks, county-maintained multi-path trails, bicycle paths and trail networks.

a. Electric bicycles are only allowed pursuant to a State of Florida issued disabled placard issued for the owner/operator of the electric bicycle.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This ordinance shall become effective upon its being filed in the Office of the Department of State.

DULY ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2020.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA

DANIEL B. LEEPER
Its: Chairman

ATTEST AS TO CHAIRMAN’S SIGNATURE:

JOHN A. CRAWFORD
Its: Ex-Officio Clerk

Approved as to form by the Nassau County Attorney:

MICHAEL S. MULLIN