

Scotty L. Kelly

From: Baum, David <DSB@dsbtech.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 26, 2026 1:29 PM
To: Scotty L. Kelly
Subject: Bike registrations - annual

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I would like to comment on the bike registrations – annually proposed by Andrea Miller. I have been a biker for over 50 years, across Europe and the US. I have taken pictures of the 45 mile bike route from Aspen to Glenwood Springs Colorado. They included measurements, safety thoughts, and have been discussed with the Public Works Director on Sanibel. When EV bikes were introduced I was concerned about biker safety . People in Colorado are extremely experienced with road and EV bikes operating together. People who ride on Sanibel are for the most part not very experienced. Not only in the “rules of the road” for bikers but in how to safely handle an EV bike. Everybody in CO knows when a simple bell (\$20) is triggered that they know they are about to be passed and respond accordingly. EX.. Voices, even those who use them when passing, way too late. But everyone hears a bell’s frequency. If you want more safety on Sanibel require that this simple device be required on all bikes – owned or rented. Renters should all be required to review a simple list of “rules of the road” before sending them on their way. Renters violate safety day in and day out and are the hazard, not the EV bikes. Another EX... Riding together in both lanes and not giving way and moving over to single file in their one way lane. Just because they learned to pleasure ride as kids, they have to understand that today biking on professional bike lanes with 20mph bikes has as much a responsibility as driving on the road. A crash of two 20 mph bikes is a 40 mph impact.

Having said that as a resident of Sanibel would you want to imposed an annual registration for any bike owned on Sanibel? As a home owner, I have paid my property taxes and this proposal is an insult to residents. Just another form of government taxation. I am not alone in my opinion. And let me give you another example of this ridiculous proposal. Before the hurricanes destroyed our home, I had 6 bikes in my garage. Not just for my wife and I, but for our grandkids or other visitors to enjoy Sanibel when they visited. Under this silly proposal I would have had to register 6 bikes every year and pay a fee associated. How does that sound to you? What do you think residents are saying privately today about Sanibel? We’ve already paid major property dollars to live on and enjoy Sanibel. Isn’t that enough for the government. Please continue to encourage path bikes and improvements on the island. Regulate street motor bikes and carts all you want. But please leave recreational biking alone.

Please give this to Council Members for me.

I am available for discussion or meeting with anyone from the Sanibel organization. David Baum 239-472-2372 FL 970-927-5160 CO Thank you for reflecting on my comments.

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From: Ashley Skinner <ashleyaskinner@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, May 22, 2026 1:20 PM

To: John Henshaw <John.Henshaw@mysanibel.com>; Eric D. Jackson <eric.jackson@mysanibel.com>; Richard Johnson <richard.johnson@mysanibel.com>; Mike Miller <Mike.Miller@mysanibel.com>; Holly Smith <Holly.Smith@mysanibel.com>; Dana A. Souza <Dana.Souza@mysanibel.com>; Steve C. Chaipel <steve.chaipel@mysanibel.com>; Laura J. DeBruce <laura.debruce@mysanibel.com>

Subject: Letter in regards to the proposed e-bike program

I am writing this in regards to the City's potential new "e-bike program". Our family moved here full time in 2021 and we love being outdoors. Not a day goes by that we are not on the SUP. Our 14 and 16 year old boys are outside on their e-bikes as much as possible and even ride them to and from work. It seems 14 should be the age that they are to be allowed to ride one given that's the age they can start working. Obviously, if a parent doesn't want that then that's ultimately up to them. We have found that by them having the e-bikes, it keeps them out of the house where they'd be sitting and playing video games. Now they have freedom and can ride around with their friends to explore the island, fish and work. They started out on regular bikes but found they could go further and do more on an e-bike. Also, if they are biking to work they aren't sweaty and gross when they arrive.

I walk my baby and small dog on the SUP every morning. I pay attention to the amount of e-bikes and the majority this year seemed to be e-bikers. This is the way of future, whether we like it or not. Many older couples are riding them and they all slow down when passing and are respectful. I don't see extreme speeding on e-bikes, but more concerned about tourists on regular bikes not warning when passing from behind. This is dangerous and should be part of the training when renting a bike. Many times, I came close to being hit by a rented regular bike but never an e-bike.

If the city moves forward with trying to implement this program, it will be an operational nightmare and nearly impossible to maintain and enforce. It seems the city would be better off thinking about the future of the trails with e-bikes in mind and making the current trails safer by creating consistent width and space from roads. When I walk along Middle Gulf near Casa Ybel Road, my arm is inches from the car going by. That is not safe. New additional trail systems would be welcomed around the island with slightly wider and more gradual curves.

I read about the proposed program in last week's paper and it really bothered me. I wonder how many of the city council members actually spend multiple days a week on the SUP. E-bikes are as safe as the person riding them, regardless of age. You could say the same thing about boaters, trust me! This is the same rationale as forbidding someone to drive their Ferrari down Periwinkle just because it's a fast car. That doesn't make sense, they just need to obey the speed limit while driving it (no I don't own a Ferrari).

Once again, trying to register multiple e-bikes and each class within those e-bikes sounds like a nightmare and even worse, trying to actually enforce that. Many e-bikes come from off island to enjoy Sanibel and the businesses here. I believe if you put time, energy and money into this program, it would be a lost cause. We will have e-bikers regardless and they will keep coming. You wouldn't have enough man power to enforce it. Also most affordable e-bike purchases are Jetsons from Costco which all have a throttle. I see many Sanibel kids riding these. Thankfully the rangers have been very nice to the kids, including mine, and they remind them to peddle and obey the speed limits. Why can't we just keep doing that? What is the push for this?

The Skinner Family