

Policy Alternatives and Selected Drafting Clarifications
Per Rules and Regulations Discussion Draft Dated May 25, 2016

Policy Alternative 1: Require a different process for approval of some or all Administrative Directives.

SPONSOR: Montgomery County Planning Board

Required Changes

1. Modify Chapter I, Section 3 as follows:

Administrative Directives: Modify the provisions authorizing Administrative Directives to require notice and an item on the applicable Board's agenda. The Board should have the ability to "pull" an item for public hearing, and the ability to reconsider existing Administrative Directives.

WORK GROUP POSITION:

Make the recommended change.

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Policy Alternative 2: Increase the group limit in the definition of “Organized Play.”

SPONSOR: Montgomery County Planning Board

Required Changes

2. Modify Chapter II, Section 1(K) as follows:

Organized Play: Any sport or athletic contest or event that includes uniformed players and an assemblage of at least ~~twenty five (25)~~ fifty (50) people that may include contestants, officials, or spectators.

WORK GROUP POSITION:

Propose compromise language below

1. Modify Chapter II, Section 1(K) as follows:

Organized Play: Any sport or athletic contest or event that includes uniformed players and an assemblage of at least **thirty five (35)** people that may include contestants, officials, or spectators.

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Policy Alternative 3: Open all paved surface trails to transient bicycle traffic 24/7 and clarify that bicycles are permitted on Parkways 24/7.

SPONSOR: Montgomery County Planning Board

Required Changes

1. Add the following provision to Chapter III, Section 2(A):

Paved trails on Park Property remain open twenty-four (24) hours a day for transient Bicycle traffic only, unless posted otherwise.

2. Modify Chapter III, Section 2(A)(4) as follows:

Parkways remain open twenty-four (24) hours a day for transient ~~motor~~ vehicle traffic only.

WORK GROUP POSITION:

Retain the proposed language in the Discussion Draft, Chapter III, Section 2(A).

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Policy Alternative 4: Eliminate the across-the-board absolute speed limit for bicycling on Park Property.

SPONSOR: Montgomery County Planning Board

Required Changes

1. Modify Chapter V, Section 4(C)(2) as follows:

Bicyclists must not operate at a speed exceeding the lesser of:

- (a) a posted trail speed limit, or, ~~if no speed limit is posted, 20 miles per hour; or~~
- (b) a speed that is reasonable and prudent under existing conditions or as directed by Park Police or other Authorized Person.

WORK GROUP POSITION:

Adopt the proposed language from the Montgomery County Planning Board.

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Policy Alternative 5: Clarify the obligations of bicycle riders to yield at trail intersections and implement signage and other traffic control devices.

SPONSOR: Montgomery County Planning Board

Required Changes

1. Modify Chapter V, Section 4(C)(4) as follows:

Bicyclists operating on trails must **(a) obey any sign, signal or other traffic control device at intersecting roadways and (b) yield to all vehicular traffic at intersecting roadways if (i) the intersection is not controlled by a sign or signal or (ii) the intersecting roadway is not another trail.**

WORK GROUP POSITION:

Adopt the proposed language from the Montgomery County Planning Board.

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Policy Alternative 6: Allow electric bicycles, as defined in the Maryland Transportation Article, to be regulated on Park Property in the same way as traditional bicycles.

SPONSOR: Montgomery County Planning Board

Required Changes

1. Add the following definition to Chapter II:

Electric Bicycle: A vehicle that:

- (1) Is designed to be operated by human power with the assistance of an electric motor;
- (2) Is equipped with fully operable pedals;
- (3) Has two or three wheels;
- (4) Has a motor with a rating of 500 watts or less; and
- (5) Is capable of a maximum speed of 20 miles per hour on a level surface when powered by the motor.

2. Modify Chapter II, Section 1(C) as follows:

Bicycle: A self-propelled bicycle or tricycle or an Electric Bicycle ~~bicycle or tricycle that is self-propelled~~, and not including any other motorized or electronic assisted vehicle.

3. Modify Chapter V, Section 14 as follows:

Section 14. Segways and Other Motorized Devices

(A) No person shall operate an unlicensed motorized scooter, motorized or electrically assisted bicycle other than an Electric Bicycle as defined in Chapter II, segway, hover-board or similar motorized personal locomotive device

WORK GROUP POSITION:

Adopt the proposed language from the Montgomery County Planning Board.

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Policy Alternative 7: Revert to original language approach to regulating horseback riding on Park Property – limited to designated areas.

SPONSOR: Montgomery County Planning Board

Required Changes

1. Eliminate Chapter V, Section 10(A).
2. Replace with the following language:

Horses are permitted only in designated or established areas and trails.

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