

A photograph of the Austin skyline at sunset, with the sun low on the horizon behind several tall skyscrapers. The sky is a mix of orange, pink, and grey. In the foreground, there are dark silhouettes of trees and a bridge over a body of water.

Austin Parks and Recreation Department Electric Bike and Scooter Parkland Trail Pilot

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Why A Pilot?

- 2018 influx of new transportation technology, electronic bike and scooters
- Electric bike/scooters users desired safe mobility options
- Code prohibited “motor-driven devices”
- A need to understand impacts to parkland and current users



Pilot Overview

January 2019 to September 15, 2019

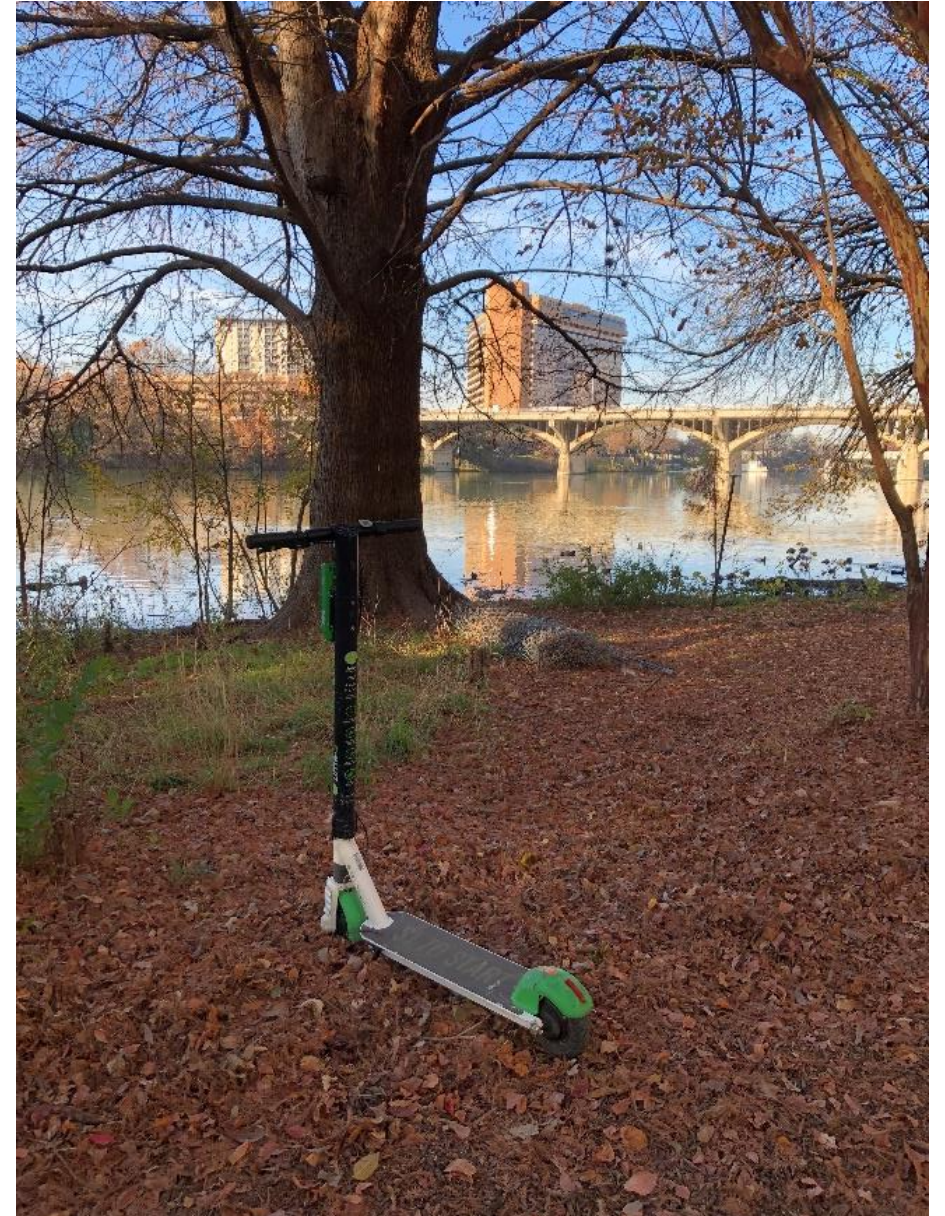
- Johnson Creek Trail
- Shoal Creek Trail South of 15th Street
- Northern and Southern Walnut Creek Trail
- Lady Bird Lake Hike and Bike Trail
 - electric bikes only



*House Bill 2188 updated that electric bikes are allowed on all trails with additional surface material.

Pilot Recommendations

1. Revise ordinance to allow electric scooters on limited paved parkland trails
2. Continue geo-fence and improve effectiveness
2. Parking box designated areas
4. Create a culture of shared trails with etiquette campaign
5. Set trail speed limits



Data Collection/Analysis

- Gathered **public feedback** through online surveys and focused group discussions.
- Sampled **speed** of all users to understand if the current 10mph speed limit is being followed and if it is appropriate.
- **Counts collected**-point in time by volunteers and electronic trail counters on all trails.
- **Data analysis**-311 Reports, electric scooter and bike rental trip



Public Feedback

Speak-up Austin, Focused Groups, Public Survey

- People primarily use parkland trails for exercise and being outside
- Public reported electric scooters and bikes yielding etiquette was the least followed guideline
- Public opinion was strongest about the Ann and Roy Butler Trail with the overwhelming sentiment negative towards electric scooters



Electric Scooters and Bikes Trip Data

- Parks and parkland trails are important to the mobility landscape. About 10% of all electric bike and scooter trips from January to September 2019 started or ended on parkland
- The Ann and Roy Butler Trail saw the largest number of electric bike and scooter rental trips start and end compared to all other trails combined



Speed Data, Trail Counts, 311 Reports

- Trail counts on outlying trails suggest that speed could be higher on these trails
- Trail counts on the Ann and Roy Butler Trail can be more than 5,000 people per day
- Speed monitoring found that bicycles, both human powered and electric, were the fastest vehicles on average



Share the Trail

SPEED
LIMIT
10

OBSERVE SPEED LIMIT
Be aware of others



BE CONSIDERATE OF OTHERS
Respect other visitors on this multi-use trail



YIELD TO PEDESTRIANS



KEEP RIGHT PASS LEFT

Pilot Recommendations

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Revise ordinance to allow electric scooters on limited paved parkland trails | QRT 2
FY20 |
| 2. Continue geofence and improve effectiveness | QRT 2
FY20 |
| 2. Parking box designated areas | QRT 4
FY20 |
| 4. Create a culture of shared trails with etiquette campaign | FY 20 |
| 5. Set trail speed limits | QRT 2
FY20 |



Questions

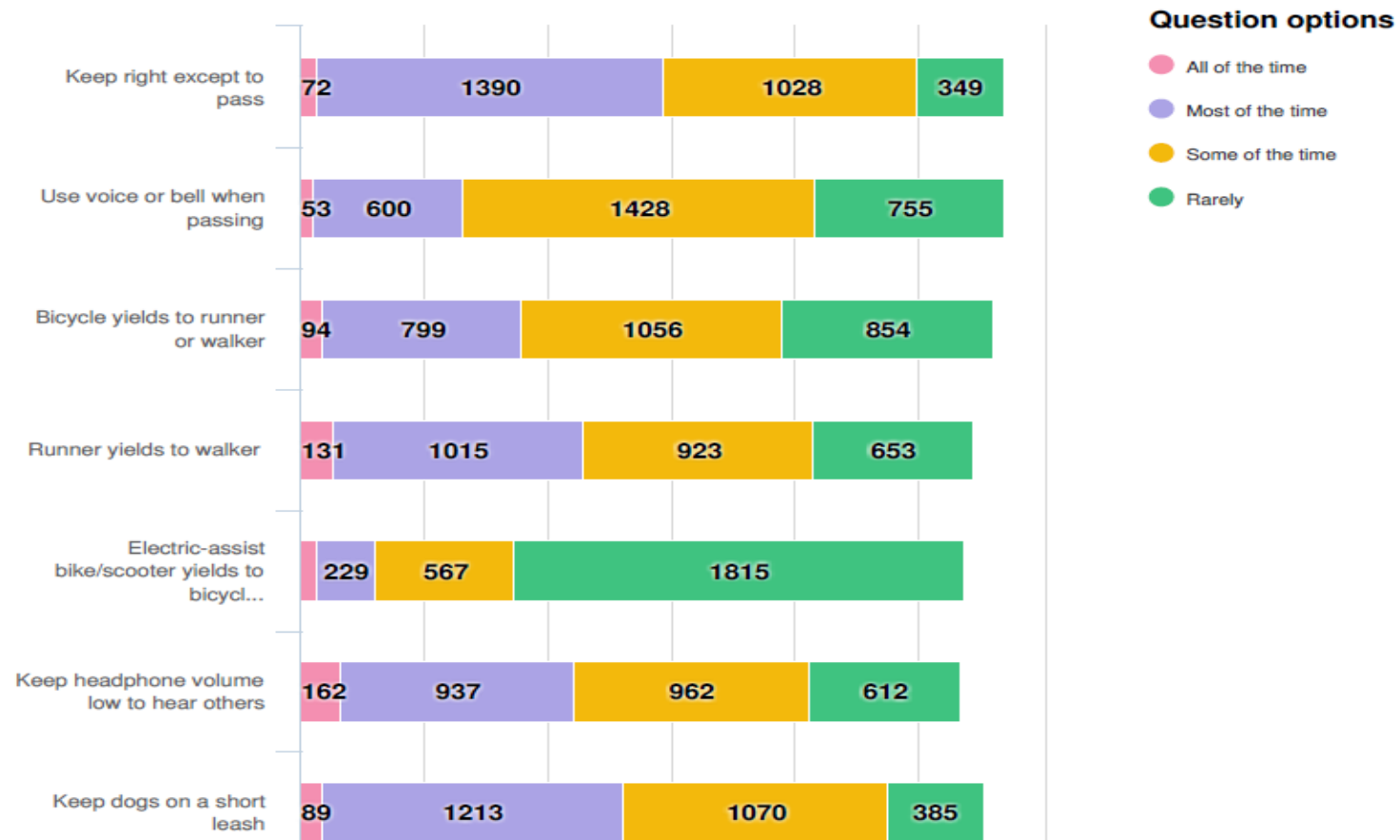
Data Summary-Public Feedback

Please rank the different reasons you use the trails, 1 being the most frequent reason and 5 the least frequent.

OPTIONS	AVG. RANK
Individual exercise or training	2.02
Enjoying nature and being outside	2.03
Transportation - Traveling to other locations or events	3.78
Walking pet	3.84
Group or team exercise or training	4.18
Transportation - Commuting to work	4.55

Data-Survey-Bike/Scooter Yielding

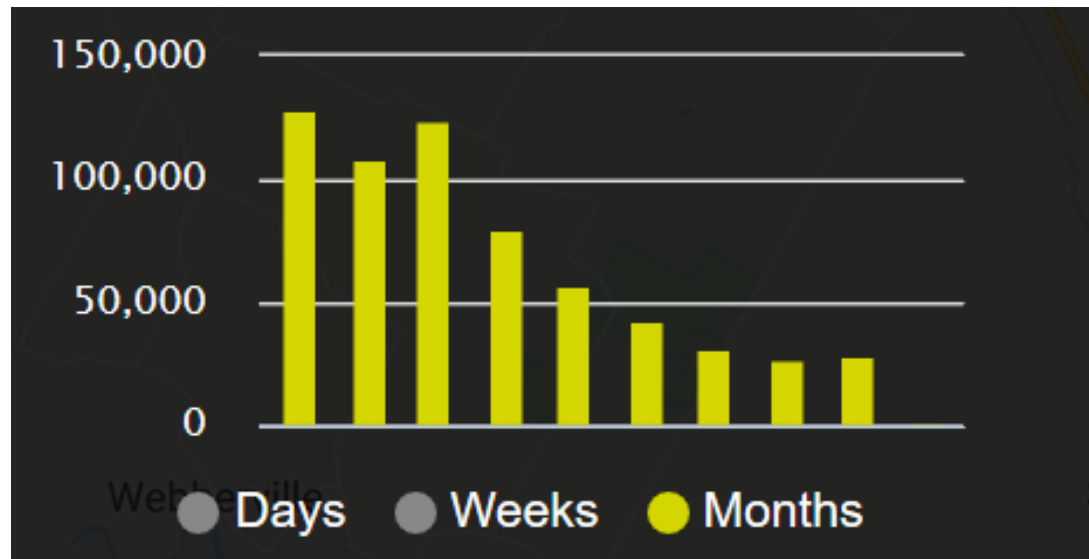
In your experience, how often do trail users follow the suggested etiquette guidelines listed below?



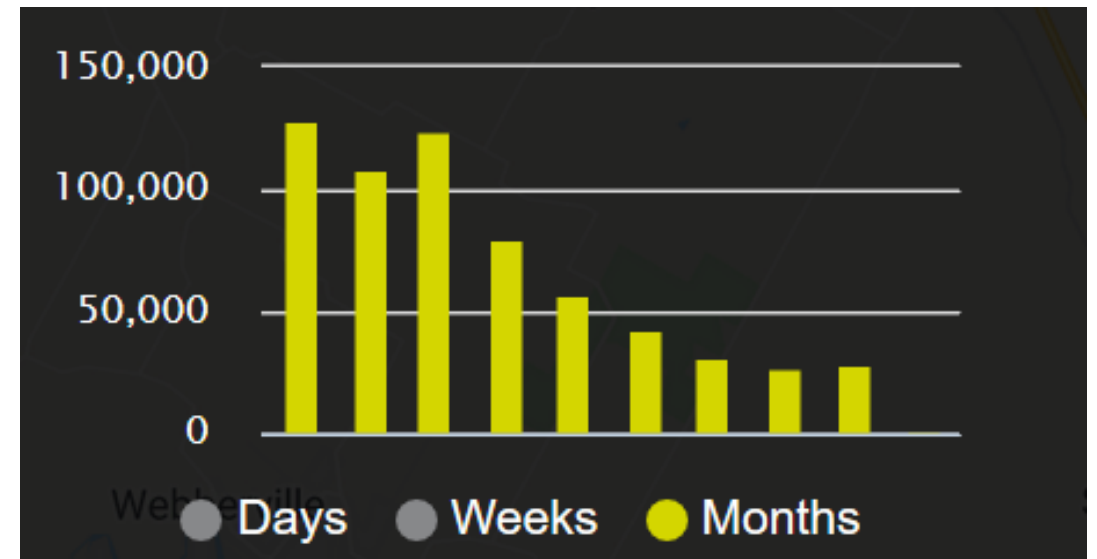
Data Summary-Trail Counts

Butler Trail-Crenshaw Monthly January thru September 2019

Walkers *847,000



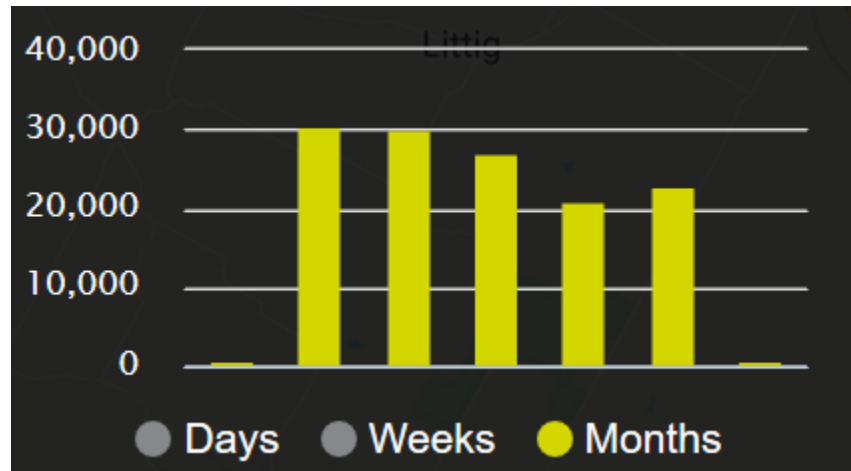
Cyclist *629,000



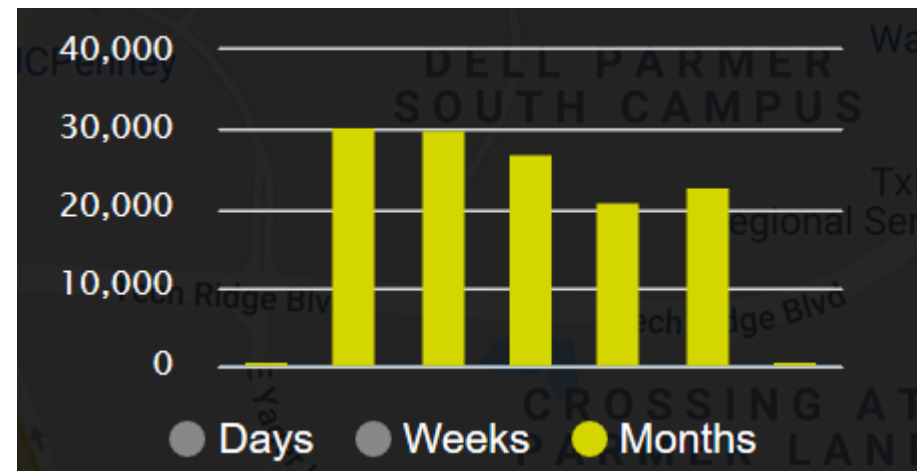
Data Summary-Trail Counts

Northern Walnut Creek Monthly January thru September 2019

Walkers



Cyclist



Data-Speed Monitoring



Trail	Count total	e bike	scooter	non motorized	ave speed e bike	ave speed scooter	ave speed non motorized	Ave overall
Ann and Roy Butler Hike and Bike (boardwalk)	564	51	4	509	10.44	10.44	11.73	11.62
Ann and Roy Butler Hike and Bike (not boardwalk)	317	9	5	303	10.53	10.44	11.61	9.91
Johnson Creek Trail	178	5	7	166	10.80	11.29	11.44	11.42
Northern Walnut Creek Trail	292	3	2	287	17.33	4.00	13.11	13.09
Shoal Creek Trail (south of 15th street)	336	9	15	312	14.44	10.60	12.11	12.07
Southern Walnut Creek Trail	1154	4	8	1143	16.75	15.00	13.95	13.97
TOTALS	COUNT	# of E Bike	# of Scooter	# Bicycles	ave speed e bike	ave speed scooter	Ave speed bike	overall ave speed
	2841	81	41	2720	11.37	11.17	12.63	12.57



Data Summary-Micromobility Trips

