



March 15, 2023

Representative Laddie Shaw, Chair  
House State Affairs Committee  
33rd Alaska State Legislature

Re: Support for House Bill 8 ELECTRIC-ASSISTED BICYCLES

Representative Shaw and Honorable Members of the House State Affairs Committee,

The Fairbanks Area Surface Transportation (FAST) Planning Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) offers our full support for House Bill 8 ELECTRIC-ASSISTED BICYCLES.

FAST Planning is the State-designated transportation planning organization for the Fairbanks and North Pole area and supports local and statewide policy, programmatic, and infrastructure improvements that improve safety for all users of the transportation network. FAST Planning BPAC provides a voice and advocacy for bicyclists and pedestrians related to local policies and projects in the Fairbanks North Star Borough.

FAST Planning BPAC supports House Bill 8 (HB 8) because it:

- adds a definition to the Alaska Administrative Code for an electric-assisted bicycle (e-bike)
- adds e-bikes to the list of modes of transportation that do not have to be registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles.
- separates e-bikes from an electric personal motor vehicle.
- separates e-bikes from a motor-driven cycle which includes motorcycles, motor scooters, and motorized bicycles.

We support defining three classes of e-bike types consistent with 37 states. As proposed, this bill is in line with the model legislation recommended by People for Bikes and the League of American Bicyclists, two non-profit organizations that work with federal, state and local officials to make biking safer and more accessible.

Using this 3-Class e-bike classification system will help our group work with federal, state, and local agencies to decide which types of e-bikes should be allowed on non-motorized public infrastructure in Fairbanks and around the State of Alaska.

Thank you for your support of House Bill 8.

Regards,



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**Nathan P. Belz, Ph.D.**

Chair, FAST Planning Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee

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Interior Delegation