



Where can you ride your e-bike?

The first step to becoming a savvy e-bike rider is to get to know the types of standard bikeways and paths that are available to you.

Rules may differ depending on where you ride — learning how they vary is important!

For a map of existing Ladera Ranch bikeways, please see reverse.



Class I Bikeway	
Exclusive right of way for bicyclists and pedestrians, away from the roadway.	
E-BIKE ALLOWED?	
↓ ↑	two-way direction, left of pedestrians
HELMET REQUIRED?	
Must wear helmet if under 18; Should wear helmet if 18+	
SPEED LIMIT	
10 MPH	

Class II Bikeway	
Designated right of way on a street defined by pavement striping and signage for bicycle travel.	
E-BIKE ALLOWED?	
↑	one-way, same as flow of traffic, watch for right-turn vehicles
HELMET REQUIRED?	
Must wear helmet if under 18; Should wear helmet if 18+	
SPEED LIMIT	
Follow posted speed limit on the road or design speed of the e-bike, whichever is lower.	

Class III Bikeway	
Shared road with motor vehicle traffic.	
E-BIKE ALLOWED?	
↑	one-way, same as flow of traffic, watch for parked cars
HELMET REQUIRED?	
Must wear helmet if under 18; Should wear helmet if 18+	
SPEED LIMIT	
Follow posted speed limit on the road or design speed of the e-bike, whichever is lower.	

Sidewalk	
Shared path for bicyclists and pedestrians, separate but parallel to local roads.	
E-BIKE ALLOWED?	
↓ ↑	two-way direction, left of pedestrians
HELMET REQUIRED?	
Must wear helmet if under 18; Should wear helmet if 18+	
SPEED LIMIT	
5 MPH	

Note: - The minimum age of riding a Type 3 e-bike is 16 and helmet is required for all riders.
- Type 3 e-bikes are prohibited on County owned regional trails outside of Ladera Ranch.

County of Orange e-Bike Laws

- All e-bikes are required to have a label that describes classification, top assisted speed, and motor wattage.
- It is illegal to carry passengers on your e-bike unless your bike has an extra permanent seat or when using a child safety seat.
- E-bikes shall not be operated in excess of their designed speed or the speed limit, whichever is lower, on the road, and in no event in excess of 10 miles per hour on paved trails.
- E-bike shall not be operated in excess of 5 miles per hour on sidewalk.
- Riding on the road against the flow of traffic is prohibited.



More safety tips and resources when you flip over this page!



Safety Tips

- Purchase e-bikes produced by known manufacturers with standard safety features (e.g. motor-interrupt brake levers, class sticker, reflectors, etc.).



- Perform a “pre-flight” check on your e-bike before you ride (e.g. tires, brake, handlebar, motor, etc.).
- Understand the rules for e-bikes in your area. Cities may have different e-bike laws.
- Understand what actions will power your e-bike’s motor on.



- Always wear an approved helmet.




- Watch for obstacles. E-bikes can go faster than traditional bicycles, so it’s important to watch out for obstacles in your path, such as pedestrians, potholes, curbs, and parked cars.



- Yield to pedestrians.
- Watch your speed. Power down when you don’t need assistance.
- Take extra care before you decide to ride at night. Use reflective gear and lights to make yourself more visible.

Resources



Orange County Bikeways Map
Bike more of the OC with this map from the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA).
bit.ly/oc-bikeways



OC Parks Paved Off-Road Bikeways
Ride on paved County trails approved for Class I and II e-bikes.
bit.ly/ocparks-paved-trails

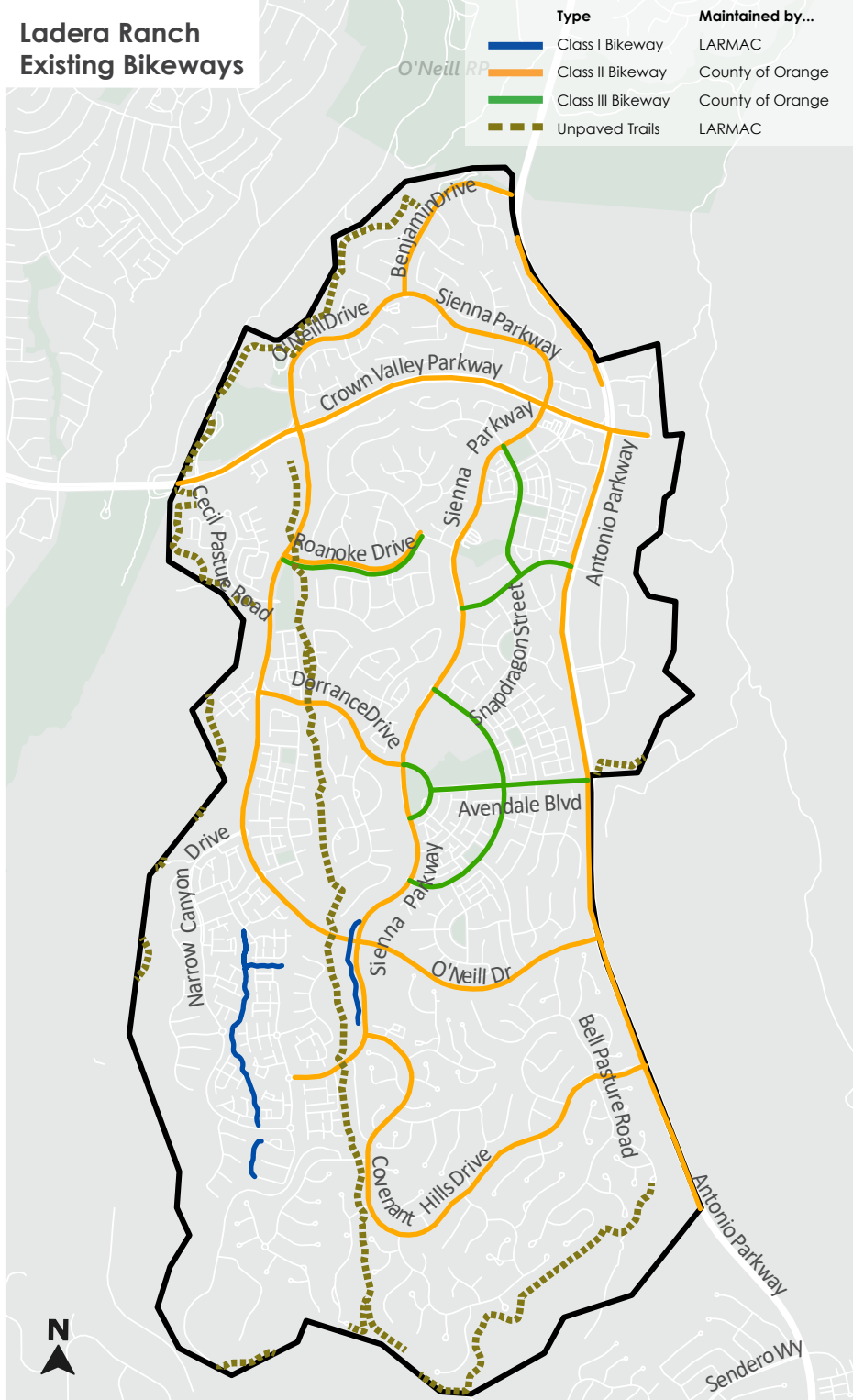


E-Bike Helmet Requirements
Read the California Vehicle Code on Operation of Bicycles.
bit.ly/ca-ebike-code



E-Bike Street Signs
Learn the road signs to watch for on your e-bike ride. See p. 26-30 of linked PDF.
bit.ly/e-bike-signs

Ladera Ranch Existing Bikeways



Data Source: OCTA, 2022; Ladera Ranch, 2022; OCPW, 2023