

# MINUTES

## Eugene City Council Virtual Public Hearing Eugene, Oregon 97401

May 16, 2022  
7:30 p.m.

**Councilors Present:** Emily Semple, Matt Keating, Alan Zelenka, Jennifer Yeh, Mike Clark, Randy Groves, Claire Syrett, Greg Evans

Mayor Vinis opened the May 16, 2022, meeting of the Eugene City Council in a virtual format.

**1. PUBLIC HEARING: An Ordinance Concerning the Use of Electric Micromobility Devices in the Whilamut Natural Area of Alton Baker Park; Amending the East Alton Baker Plan; and Amending Section 5.160 of the Eugene Code, 1971.**

City Manager Sarah Medary introduced the topic.

1. Drew Simrin - supported the amendments and adding signage to show what is allowed.
2. Claire Roth - supported the amendments to allow micromobility devices in East Alton Baker.
3. Vicky Mello- said the main use of this area is for passive recreation; preserve the natural area.
4. Jennifer Gordon - said she opposes the amendments and supports preserving the area.
5. Kevin Schaper - said he uses an electric bike, and the path network through Alton Baker Park is essential.
6. David Sonnichsen - said humans do not have dominion over land; opposed the amendments.

### Council Discussion

- Councilor Syrett - asked staff if the electric scooters are geofenced from going into the Springfield area of the Whilamut connector; clarified the allowable scooter area based on the map and stated that the wider paved areas are where the electric scooters will be allowed; asked staff to elaborate on where e-mobility devices are allowed and what happens when one enters Springfield.
- Councilor Keating - shared testimony that was emailed from Vicky Mello on April 19 opposing the e-mobility pilot program in East Alton Baker Park.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Katie LaSala  
City Recorder

*(Recorded by Niyah Ross)*

Link to the webcast of this City Council meeting [here](#).