

SHARE THE SPACE

Can't we all just get along?

The problem

- Maintaining safety for all trail users
- Diverse types of users operate at different speeds and levels of predictability
- Some users “just don’t know” or don’t understand
- Exacerbated by COVID-19 impact

<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/dehop4T13Uk>

2

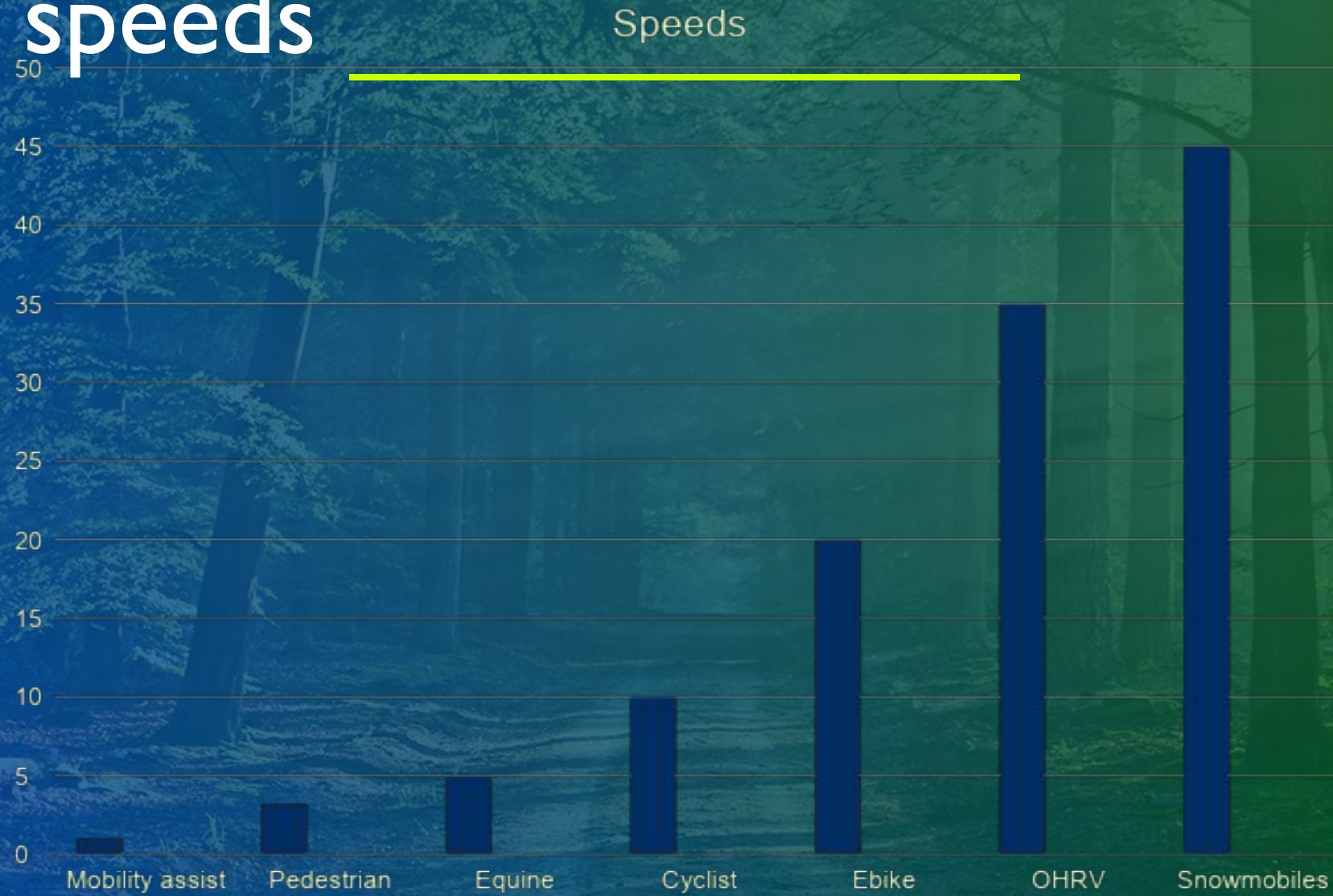


**Minute Man Bikeway
Lexington, MA**

Types of trail users

- Pedestrians/hikers/x-country skiers (may have pets)
- Mobility limited persons
- Cyclists
- Equine
- Snowmobiles
- OHRVs
- E-bike/PEV (Personal Electric Vehicles)
- Out of classification/illegal users
- Other

User speeds



Why not eliminate certain users?

If motorized users were eliminated it would be safer for the rest...right?

Grant-in-Aid program

- OHRV GIA awards for 2023: \$1.2M
- Snowmobile clubs GIA awards for 2023: \$1.8M

Recreational Trail Program

- Recreational Trails Program: \$670k (Rail Trail Groups, Trail Clubs, Municipalities and State)

Different groups have access to different funds which are used to maintain the trails that we all use.



The Golden Rules

- Use Safe Speeds
- Bicyclists should always yield to pedestrians as well as to horses
- Be Alert
- Mind Your Pets. You are responsible for removing all waste

Presidential Rail Trail/xNHAT

The Golden Rules

- Know and Follow the Rules and Laws governing the trail you are using
- Leave No Trace – Help us keep our trails clean

Presidential Rail Trail/xNHAT



The Golden Rules



- **Keep Right, Pass Left**
- **Warn users as you approach them from the rear**
- **Pass on the left after giving an audible signal**
- **Allow other users to pass on your left**
- **Standing Still? Stand Aside**



Etiquette and Safety

Understanding other trail users needs

- **Many new users do not understand**
 - **We must educate unknowing users – be patient**
 - **Lead by example**
 - **Having brochures to hand out with trail map and The Golden Rules**
 - **Simplifying/consolidating the Golden Rules**
 - **Additional signage**



Etiquette and Safety

Pedestrians

- Be predictable
- Be mindful of children
- Stay to the right
- Be on alert - listen to your surroundings
- Keep pets on a short leash - tangle hazard
- Stand to side/off trail when stopping



Etiquette and Safety

Cyclists

- Be predictable - don't suddenly stop
- Be mindful of children
- Stay to the right
- Announce and pass on left
- Be on alert - listen to users announcing
- Audible warning device (bell)



Etiquette and Safety

Equestrian

- Make sure your horse has the temperament and training for riding on recreational trails.
- Let other trail users know when it is safe to pass your horse.
- Announce your intention to pass others. Come to a walk and pass on the left when safe and appropriate.
- Always pick up after your horse.



The Trails Safe Passing Plan



TRAILS SAFE PASSING PLAN: STOP, SPEAK, and STAND BACK

STOP:

Horses are prey animals and naturally can be afraid of unfamiliar people and objects. Horses have natural "flight" survival instincts and prefer to move their feet towards an exit route. Therefore, people with horses should pass at a walk while other trail users remain STOPPED until passed.

SPEAK:

Please ANNOUNCE your presence.
Please SAY "Hi" when we pass by.
Speaking helps horses identify you as a person and will help keep them calm.

STAND BACK:

Please STAND BACK with your whole group on the same side of the trail.
Please contain children and dogs.
Please do not hide or stand behind a tree, as these actions may cause horses to fear you are a predator planning an attack.

SMILE:

Enjoy the trails!



Etiquette and Safety

OHRV

- OHRV groups are generally concerned about loosing access to trails
- Only a few multi-user trails in NH allow OHRV
- OHRV yields to all other trail users
- One of the greatest speed differences (only snowmobiles have a faster speed limit)



Etiquette and Safety

E-Bikes/Personal Electric Devices

- Different classes of E-Bikes
- Evolving area of regulation
- Typical top speeds up to 20/28 mph
- Typically Class 3 E-Bikes are not allowed on trails
- PEV: Everything else electric (uni-wheels, scooters)



E-Bike Classes



CLASS 1

CLASS 2

CLASS 3

Pedal Assist



Throttle



Max Speed

20 mph

20 mph

28 mph

VIDEO SLIDE

<https://www.youtube.com/shorts/dehop4T13Uk>

ADD A FOOTER



THANK YOU!

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