

E-bikes may rejuvenate cycling industry

By Buck Wargo, Las Vegas Review-Journal

The future of bicycling rolled toward a clear trend this week, gaining speed throughout the 34th annual Interbike Exposition in Las Vegas with only a light push of the pedals.

Once aboard the electric bike, that's all the effort it might take.

Imagine you're riding a bike, come to a hill and slow down as you climb. The e-bike's sensors can tell you're struggling. All of a sudden it feels like you have a hand on your back, pushing while you barely peddle.

That's the new rage in biking, though some traditionalists consider an electric motor cheating. But the industry, which has seen bicycle shops in the U.S. decrease from 5,000 to 4,000 over the last decade, sees the e-bike as a product that could reverse the trend.

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