

## **Bicycle Rental Operation Commercial Use Authorization Information Frequently Asked Questions**

### **1. Will there be employee housing available within Grand Canyon National Park?**

The National Park Service will not provide housing for the permittee or its employees. The permittee or its employees will be responsible for securing all housing associated with the bicycle rental operations commercial use authorization.

In park trailer sites large enough to accommodate a travel trailer may be available by contacting the park's South Rim hospitality concessioner, Xanterra South Rim, L.L.C., on the web at <http://www.grandcanyonlodges.com/> or via telephone at 1-888-297-2757 or (928) 638-2631.

Additional housing may also be available in the towns of Tusayan, Arizona, approximately 10 miles from the South Rim, Valle, Arizona, approximately 35 miles from the South Rim, Williams, Arizona, approximately 60 miles from the South Rim, or Flagstaff, Arizona, approximately 75 miles from the South Rim.

### **2. Will there be electrical and internet access available at the rental site?**

It is likely that there will not be electrical or internet access at the rental site. The National Park Service will work with the permittee to provide access if possible. During the 2010 season, extensive construction is planned at Canyon View Information Plaza and the Grand Canyon Visitor Center and the rental site may be moved several times during the season to accommodate the construction. The permittee should plan for rental infrastructure that is mobile and that does not require internet or electricity.

### **3. What is the size of the location available for the bicycle storage?**

The area designated for bicycle storage is in the Commercial Vehicle Lot at Canyon View Information Plaza and will be the size of two 40-foot bus parking spaces.

During the 2010 season, extensive construction is planned at Canyon View Information Plaza and the Grand Canyon Visitor Center and the bicycle storage site may be moved several times during the season to accommodate the construction. The permittee should plan for storage infrastructure that is mobile.

### **4. What are the National Park Service's specific goals for bicycle rental and what is the minimum numbers of bicycles required?**

The National Park Service is not requiring a minimum or setting a maximum number of required bicycles. Based on periodic evaluations of safety, resources and visitor experience, the National Park Service may set a maximum number of rentals during the term of the commercial use authorization.

Goals for the bicycle rental operation include providing visitors with a method of accessing park sites and infrastructure without relying on their personal vehicles and improving overall visitor experience. The bicycle rental operation is a new visitor service at Grand Canyon National Park and the National Park Service will use data and information collected during the term of this commercial use authorization to determine how future bicycle rental operations will be managed.

**5. How many people visit Grand Canyon National Park annually?**

Approximately 4.5 million people visit Grand Canyon National Park annually, with the majority visiting the South Rim. General statistics about Grand Canyon National Park and park visitation by year and month can be found by visiting the park's website at <http://www.nps.gov/grca/parkmgmt/statistics.htm>

**6. Where will visitors be able to ride rented bicycles?**

Visitors will be able to ride rented bicycles on all park roadways open to general vehicle traffic, on roadways such as the Hermit Road and Yaki Point Road that are open only to shuttle bus traffic, and on the park's paved multi-use greenway system. Visitors will not be allowed to ride on the park's pedestrian rim trail.

The park's multi-use greenway system currently connects Canyon View Information Plaza and the Grand Canyon Visitor Center with Market Plaza, Mather Campground, Trailer Village and the historic Grand Canyon Village area. There is also approximately three miles of paved greenway open to bike use near the canyon rim along the Hermit Road.

The distance from the rental area near the Grand Canyon Visitor Center to Market Plaza, Mather Campground and Trailer Village is approximately one mile. The distance from the rental area near the Grand Canyon Visitor Center to the Grand Canyon Village area is approximately three miles. The distance from the rental area near the Grand Canyon Visitor Center to Hermit's Rest at the end of the Hermit Road is approximately ten miles.

The National Park Service plans to develop additional multi-use greenway infrastructure in the near future, including sections connecting the Grand Canyon Visitor Center with the South Kaibab Trailhead and the gateway community of Tusayan. These sections of greenway trail, however, will not be available during the 2010 season.

**7. Is there a map of Grand Canyon National Park bicycle paths?**

Currently the best map of the roadways and greenway trails in and around the Grand Canyon Village can be found by visiting the park's websites at:

<http://www.nps.gov/grca/parknews/upload/2009-10WinTranMap.pdf>

[http://www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/upload/200909village\\_map.pdf](http://www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/upload/200909village_map.pdf)

The National Park Service will provide the permittee with a copy of a map delineating areas where visitors will be allowed to ride bicycles. The permittee will be responsible for providing copies of this map to all customers.

**8. Can the park's shuttle buses support bicycles?**

Each of the park's shuttle buses is equipped with a rack that accommodates up to three bicycles.

**9. What is the required operating season and hours of operation for the bicycle rental operation?**

The National Park Service has not set a required operating season or required hours of operation for the bicycle rental. However, all dates and hours of operation must be submitted to and approved by the National Park Service. In general, Grand Canyon National Park sees high visitation from mid-March through October. Information about National Park Service facility and visitor center operating hours is available by visiting the park's website at <http://www.nps.gov/grca/planyourvisit/visitorcenters.htm>.