



Agenda Report

July 30, 2007

TO: City Council through Public Safety Committee
FROM: Rose Bowl Operating Company (RBOC)
RE: Pelaton Bicyclists – Rose Bowl

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve and direct the City Attorney's Office to prepare a City Ordinance to prohibit bicyclists from riding more than 2 abreast on any public street in the City other than pursuant to a City permit issued for an event or activity, including the area around the Rose Bowl.

BACKGROUND:

For a number of years, large numbers of cyclists have been racing in "pelaton" formation around the Rose Bowl. The term pelaton refers to groups of cyclists riding in formation, between three and six riders across. These bicyclists have caused 14 bike versus pedestrian reported incidents round the Rose Bowl during the past 7 ½ years.

The pelaton riders create a width of more than a single lane of traffic across as they ride in formation. The width of six bicyclists is approximately the same width of two vehicles side by side, which is approximately 16 to 18 feet across. This width of pelaton intrudes into the pedestrian recreational walking lane, and often intrudes into oncoming traffic all of which cause safety issues.

The pelaton travels in groups of 50-75 cyclists at a time. They race around the Rose Bowl on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Their direction of travel is south on Rosemont, west on Seco, and north on West Drive then east on Washington Blvd. Many pedestrians travel in the opposite direction on the same side of the roadway.

The pelaton creates pedestrian and vehicular traffic problems, which arise when cyclists indiscriminately block traffic and use vehicle and pedestrian traffic lanes. They also seem to disregard walkers including parents with strollers and young children on bicycles.

Rose Bowl staff has received numerous complaints from patrons of Brookside Golf Course, as well as local residents. Staff has been in communication with the Pasadena Police Department regarding this issue, and the police department has provided suggestions on how to address this situation.

