

# Ordinance Fact Sheet

TO: CITY COUNCIL

DATE: August 6, 2007

FROM: CITY ATTORNEY

SUBJECT: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASADENA AMENDING SECTION 10.60.140 OF THE PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE, BICYCLE REGULATIONS, TO PROHIBIT BICYCLISTS FROM RIDING MORE THAN TWO ABREAST IN ANY PUBLIC STREET, WHERE SUCH PROHIBITION IS POSTED AT THE DIRECTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

## TITLE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASADENA AMENDING SECTION 10.60.140 OF THE PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE, BICYCLE REGULATIONS, TO PROHIBIT BICYCLISTS FROM RIDING MORE THAN TWO ABREAST IN ANY PUBLIC STREET, WHERE SUCH PROHIBITION IS POSTED AT THE DIRECTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

## BACKGROUND:

For a number of years, large numbers of cyclists have been racing in "peloton" formation around the Rose Bowl on a regular basis. The term peloton refers to groups of cyclists riding in formation, between three and six riders across. The peloton 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 peloton 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 as two vehicles side by side, which is approximately 16 to 18 feet across. This width of peloton encroaches into the pedestrian recreational walking lane, and often encroaches into oncoming traffic, all of which cause public safety issues.

The peloton creates pedestrian and vehicular traffic problems, which arise when cyclists encroach into traffic and use vehicle and pedestrian traffic lanes. 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 and continues to assess and to monitor the situation. The City Council directed preparation of this Ordinance at the Council meeting on July 31, 2007.

PURPOSE OF ORDINANCE:

Currently, the City Council may, by Resolution and posted notice, prevent the operation of bicycles on sidewalks. The proposed ordinance will also allow the City Council to prohibit, by Resolution and posting, bicyclists from riding more than two abreast on any specific street named in a subsequent Resolution. Violation of the Ordinance would be an infraction and subject to the monetary fines set forth in the Pasadena Municipal Code. In addition, any Resolution applying the provision to a particular street may provide for suspension of the prohibition and the covering of the signs by the City Department of Transportation as a part of a special event or use for which a valid permit or license agreement is in force and effect. Therefore, for example, no further action of City Council would be required for the Tour de California or for any special activity or use which might be proposed for peloton activity which is properly regulated and permitted.

ACTIONS REQUIRED BEFORE PROHIBITION IS EFFECTIVE:

The first reading of this Ordinance is proposed for the regular City Council meeting of August 6, 2007, and second reading for the regular City Council meeting of August 13, 2007. The Ordinance will become effective 30 days after its publication. The City Council will also be asked to adopt a Resolution applying the prohibition to specific streets around the Rose Bowl. The City Attorney's office will return to City Council at its regular meeting of either August 13, 2007 or September 10, 2007 with that Resolution for adoption, with an effective date coinciding with the effective date of the Ordinance. If the Resolution is adopted, then the prohibition would be effective as soon as the designated streets are posted with appropriate signage.

REASON FOR THE ORDINANCE:

Under the provisions of California Vehicle Code, Sections 21100 and 21206, regulations of this type must be established by ordinance.

DEPARTMENTS AFFECTED BY THE ORDINANCE:

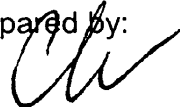
The primary impact of the Ordinance will be on the Police Department which will have the responsibility for enforcement.

Respectfully submitted,



Michele Beal Bagners  
City Attorney

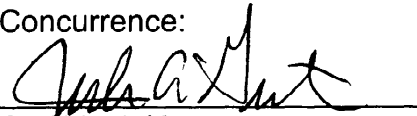
Prepared by:



8/2/07

Nicholas George Rodriguez  
Assistant City Attorney

Concurrence:



Kurtz

Cynthia J. Kurtz  
City Manager

Introduced by:

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PASADENA AMENDING SECTION 10.60.140 OF THE PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE, BICYCLE REGULATIONS, TO PROHIBIT BICYCLISTS FROM RIDING MORE THAN TWO ABREAST IN ANY PUBLIC STREET, WHERE SUCH PROHIBITION IS POSTED AT THE DIRECTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

The people of the City of Pasadena ordain as follows:

WHEREAS, for a number of years, large numbers of cyclists have been racing in "peloton" formation around the Rose Bowl as a recreational and as a training activity on a regular basis every week;

WHEREAS the peloton is a large mass of riders which regularly encroaches into pedestrian areas and across all lanes of traffic, including into oncoming traffic;

WHEREAS, there have been a number of reported collisions as a result of the peloton formation as well as complaints to staff and city commissions by residents and other recreational users about the hazards created by the peloton for walkers, skaters, other bicyclists and motor vehicles;

WHEREAS, the peloton consistently and unreasonably interferes with other recreational uses at the Rose Bowl area;

WHEREAS, the peloton is not sponsored by any group or organization willing to provide traffic control so as to protect the public during this use nor to provide insurance and indemnity from collisions which might occur during this use;

WHEREAS, limiting the number of riders allowed to ride in tandem to two, wherever the prohibition is posted by resolution of the city council, will not affect recreational bicycle riders and should eliminate most of the hazards created by the peloton;

WHEREAS, California Vehicle Code, Section 21100 allows local authorities to adopt rules and regulations which regulate or prohibit processions or assemblages on the highways and streets;

WHEREAS California Vehicle Code, Section 21206 allows local authorities to regulate the operation of bicycles on pedestrian or bicycle facilities.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that:

SECTION 1. Section 10.60.140 of the Pasadena Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

"A. It is unlawful to ride a bicycle upon any sidewalk in front of any church, school or place of public assembly except where the sidewalk area is designated a bike lane by the director of transportation with official signs and markings.

B. In all other areas, the rider of a bicycle shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians.

C. Based on demonstrated pedestrian, bicycle and traffic safety needs, the city council may, by resolution, regulate or prohibit the use of bicycles on specific sidewalks within high congestion retail shopping districts, **and may prohibit persons riding bicycles upon a roadway or bike lane from riding more than two abreast** and shall direct the posting of such regulations and prohibitions as well as any signs for markings determined appropriate to encourage shared use of the streets. **Any such resolution which prohibits persons from riding more than two abreast may provide for suspension of the prohibition and covering of the signs by the city department of transportation as a part of a special event or use for which a valid permit or license agreement is in force and effect.**

D. It is unlawful to operate a bicycle on a sidewalk where it has been posted to regulate or prohibit its use pursuant to subsection C of this section or in a manner otherwise prohibited by subsections A or B of this section. Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an infraction, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished as provided in Section 1.24.025 of this code."

SECTION 2. The City Clerk shall certify the adoption of this ordinance and shall cause this ordinance to be published in full text.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall take effect 30 days after its publication.

Signed and approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007.

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Bill Bogaard  
Mayor of the City of Pasadena

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing ordinance was adopted by the City Council of the City of Pasadena at its meeting held the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:


ABSTAIN:

PUBLISHED:

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Jane L. Rodriguez, CMC  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

 8/2/07

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Nicholas George Rodriguez  
Assistant City Attorney