

Agenda Report

TO: City Council **DATE:** January 5, 2004
THRU: Public Safety Committee
FROM: City Manager
SUBJECT: MODIFICATION OF AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE OPERATION OF BICYCLES ON SIDEWALKS WITHIN DESIGNATED HIGH CONGESTION RETAIL SHOPPING DISTRICTS

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the City Council direct the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance amending section 10.60.140 of the Pasadena Municipal Code (PMC), making it unlawful to ride bicycles on sidewalks in designated retail shopping districts as determined by the Director of Transportation.

Background:

This recommendation focuses on pedestrian safety on the City's crowded sidewalks within designated retail shopping districts. Existing PMC section 10.60.140 prohibits the use of bicycles upon any sidewalk in front of any church, school or place of public assembly except where the sidewalk area is designated a bike lane with official signs and markings. Section 10.61.040 of the Municipal Code prohibited the use of skateboards and roller-skates on sidewalks within specific sub districts of Old Pasadena and South Lake Avenue. In May 2003, the City Council approved modifying that ordinance to also prohibit the use of Electric Personal Assistance Mobility Devices such as the Segway Human Transport on sidewalks in designated retail shopping districts.

The recommended modifications to PMC section 10.60.140 would expand the existing ordinance in the same way, making it unlawful to ride bicycles

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January 5, 2004

Page 2

on sidewalks in designated retail shopping districts, where the need to regulate bicycle use has been determined by the Director of Transportation. In addition, on roadways where the use of bicycles has been prohibited on sidewalks, the City will install "Share the Road" warning signs in roadway, to further enhance and increase the motorists' awareness of the presence of bicyclists traveling on the roadway.

California Vehicle Code (CVC) section 21100(h) allows local authorities to adopt rules and regulations by ordinance or resolution regarding the operation of bicycles on the public sidewalks. These regulations allow for enforcement of vehicle code laws on sidewalks. Per CVC requirement, the ordinance shall not apply until signs or markings giving adequate notice thereof have been placed

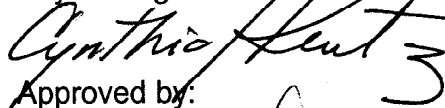
Collisions between pedestrians and bicycles on sidewalks are infrequent. However, they do occur, and are often not formally reported to the police department. This recommendation to regulate the use of bicycles on sidewalks in the congested retail shopping districts would enhance the safety of pedestrians in those high-density areas.

Fiscal Impact:

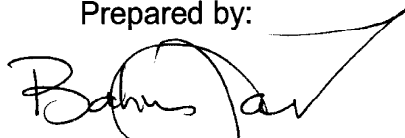
No new appropriations will be required if such ordinance modifications are enacted. Existing staff will manage enforcement, and signage costs can be absorbed within existing appropriations.

Respectfully Submitted,

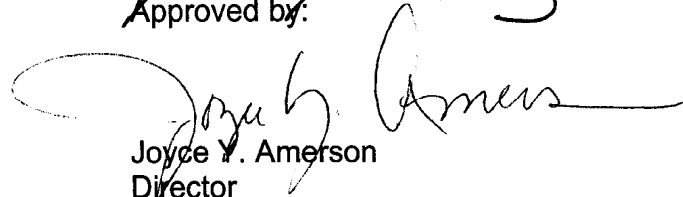
CYNTHIA J. KURTZ
City Manager


Approved by:

Prepared by:



Bahman Janka, P.E.
Transportation Administrator
Department of Transportation



Joyce Y. Amerson
Director
Department of Transportation