

Agenda Report

TO: City Council

DATE: July 19, 2004

FROM: City Manager

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION TO REGULATE THE OPERATION OF BICYCLES ON
SIDEWALKS WITHIN THE SOUTH LAKE AVENUE BUSINESS
DISTRICT**

Recommendation:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt a resolution regulating the operation of bicycles on sidewalks on South Lake Avenue from Colorado Boulevard to California Boulevard, and implement appropriate signing and pavement striping as incentives to ride bicycles on the street.

Background:

City Council directed preparation of an ordinance to enable regulation of bicycles on sidewalks at its regular meeting of April 12, 2004. At that meeting staff reported that there are continuing issues of pedestrian safety on certain crowded sidewalks and that bicycles on sidewalks in certain districts may present a problem.

On June 7, 2004, the City Attorney presented the City Council with proposed amendments to section 10.60.140 of the Pasadena Municipal Code pertaining to the operation of bicycles on designated sidewalks. The staff report to the City Council indicated that the adoption of the proposed ordinance will not by itself prohibit operation of bicycles on any sidewalks. Prohibitions as to specific sidewalks would come about through later action as the City Council, by resolution, would regulate or prohibit the use of bicycles on specific sidewalks and direct the posting of the prohibition. The City Council directed staff to prepare the necessary staff report and resolution for specific streets where the prohibition is recommended, so that it would review and consider both the ordinance and the resolution concurrently. The report for proposed amendments to the ordinance is under a separate item on this agenda.

RESOLUTION TO REGULATE THE OPERATION OF BICYCLES ON SIDEWALKS WITHIN THE SOUTH LAKE AVENUE BUSINESS DISTRICT

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Proposed Resolution

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 public sidewalks. These regulations allow for enforcement of vehicle code laws on sidewalks.

This resolution focuses on pedestrian safety on the City's crowded sidewalks within the South Lake Avenue retail shopping district. The Department of Transportation has reviewed the existing conditions along Lake Avenue between Colorado Boulevard and California Boulevard to assess the need for enhancing pedestrian and bicycle operations. Field reviews included consideration of several factors including but not limited to: the total width of the sidewalk, available/usable sidewalk width due to the presence of various sidewalk furniture (poles, news stands, trees, racks, fire hydrants, etc), the degree of pedestrian activity on the sidewalk, and the observed street parking turnover rates.

Based on the review of these factors, staff has concluded that the overall pedestrian and bicycle safety is maximized by prohibiting the operation of bicycles on the sidewalks within the reference boundaries. In addition, the City shall install "Share the Road" warning signs, painted edge lines, and any potentially approved bicycle pavement legends along the roadway, as incentives to ride bicycles on the street and to further enhance and increase the motorists' awareness of the presence of bicyclists traveling on the roadway. The recommendation to regulate the use of bicycles on sidewalks in the congested areas of South Lake Avenue would enhance the safety of pedestrians in those high-density areas.

Environmental Impact:

The proposed resolution is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under the General Rule that CEQA applies only to activities which may have a significant effect on the environment (Section 15061(b)(3)).

MODIFICATION OF AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE OPERATION OF BICYCLES ON SIDEWALKS WITHIN THE SOUTH LAKE AVENUE BUSINESS DISTRICT

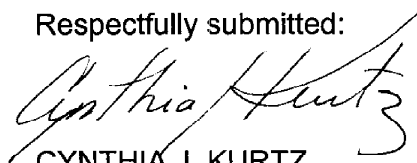
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Fiscal Impact:

No new appropriations will be required as a result of this resolution. Existing staff will manage enforcement, and signage costs can be absorbed within existing appropriations.

Respectfully submitted:



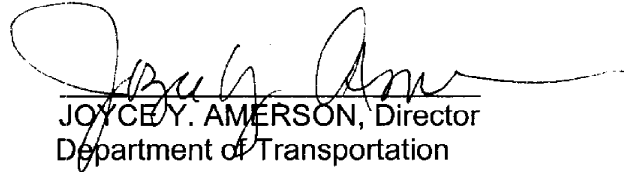
CYNTHIA J. KURTZ
City Manager

Prepared by:



BAHMAN JANKA, P.E.
Transportation Administrator

Approved by:



JOYCE Y. AMERSON, Director
Department of Transportation