

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



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January 29, 2010

To All Interested Parties:

The City Council adopted the action(s), as attached, under
Council file No. 09-2895 , at its meeting held January 27, 2010.



City Clerk
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**TO THE COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF LOS ANGELES**

File No. 09-2895

Your **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

reports as follows:

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT relative to prohibiting the harassment of bicyclists in the city of Los Angeles.

Recommendation for Council actions, as initiated by Motion (Rosendahl – Reyes):

REQUEST the City Attorney, in conjunction with the Department of Transportation, to report relative to actions the City can take to prohibit the harassment of bicyclists in the city of Los Angeles, and to recommend legislation or administrative changes that require action by the State of California to address this matter.

Fiscal Impact Statement: None submitted. Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

SUMMARY

On December 1, 2009, Council considered Motion (Rosendahl – Reyes) relative to prohibiting the harassment of bicyclists in the city of Los Angeles. Motion states that the City is working to improve the quality of bicycling in the city and encourage more people to travel by bicycle. Unfortunately, as more people use bicycles, there has been an increase in the number of clashes between cyclists and motorists. Bicyclists report that they have been bumped off the road, screamed at by drivers, and had objects thrown at them. Occasionally, these situations have resulted in serious verbal altercations and physical assaults.

Motion makers believe that as efforts are made to promote cycling, the City must take steps to stop the harassment of bicyclists. They note that several cities and states are addressing this issue by implementing ordinances that make harassing a bicyclist a criminal offense. It is important for the City of Los Angeles to do the same. Such a law would discourage this type of behavior toward cyclists, as well as provide another tool to prosecute offending individuals. Motion requests that the City Attorney prepare an ordinance to prohibit the harassment of bicyclists in the city of Los Angeles. Council referred Motion to the Transportation and Public Safety Committees for consideration.

At its meeting held January 11, 2010, the Public Safety Committee discussed this matter with representatives of the Department of Transportation and the City Attorney. The City Attorney representative stated that the State of California has jurisdiction of the rules of the road. Proposals to address bicycle safety, such as mandating minimum distance requirements between cyclists and motorists, need to be addressed by the State. While acknowledging the serious safety concerns faced by cyclists on the streets of the city of Los Angeles, Committee members expressed concerns about how a local ordinance could be enforced.

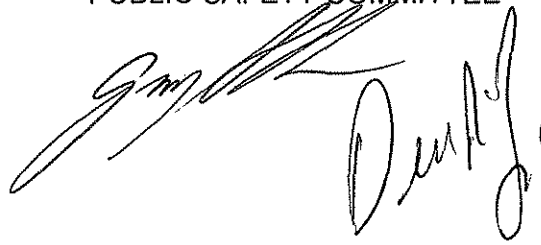
During the public comment period, members of the community expressed support for a City ordinance to improve safety for cyclists on city roads. Speakers spoke of experiences of

cyclists threatened and harassed while riding. One speaker noted that precedent exists for local action; a city in Missouri adopted an ordinance to enhance cycling safety.

The Public Safety Committee recommended that Council request the City Attorney, in conjunction with the Department of Transportation, to report relative to actions the City can take to prohibit the harassment of bicyclists in the city of Los Angeles, and to recommend legislation or administrative changes that require action by the State of California to address this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE



<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
SMITH:	YES
CARDENAS:	YES
PERRY:	ABSENT
REYES:	ABSENT
ZINE:	YES

JAW
09-2895_ps_01-13-2010

ADOPTED

JAN 27 2010
As Amended
LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL
All Attached motions

1/27/10

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COMMUNICATION

TO: LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

File No. 09-2895

**FROM: COUNCILMEMBER BILL ROSENDAHL, CHAIR
COUNCILMEMBER PAUL KORETZ, MEMBER
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR and MEMBER, TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE relative to prohibiting the harassment of bicyclists in the City of Los Angeles.

Recommendation for Council action, pursuant to Motion (Rosendahl - Reyes):

REQUEST the City Attorney to work with the Los Angeles Department of Transportation to prepare and present an ordinance that would prohibit the harassment of bicyclists in the City of Los Angeles.

Fiscal Impact Statement: Neither the City Administrative Officer nor the Chief Legislative Analyst has completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted

SUMMARY

At a regular meeting held on December 9, 2009, the Transportation Committee considered Motion (Rosendahl - Reyes) regarding prohibiting the harassment of bicyclists in the City of Los Angeles. Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) representatives gave the Committee background information on the matter. An opportunity for public comment was held. Afterwards, the Committee moved to approve the recommendation contained in the Motion and forwarded the matter to the Public Safety Committee for further consideration.

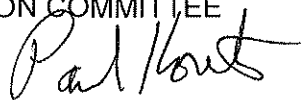
At its meeting held January 11, 2010, the Public Safety Committee discussed this matter with representatives of the LADOT and the City Attorney. The City Attorney representative stated that the State of California has jurisdiction of the rules of the road. Proposals to address bicycle safety, such as mandating minimum distance requirements between cyclists and motorists, need to be addressed by the State. While acknowledging the serious safety concerns faced by cyclists on the streets of the City of Los Angeles, Committee members expressed concerns about how a local ordinance could be enforced.

After an opportunity for public comment was held, the Public Safety Committee recommended that Council request the City Attorney, in conjunction with the LADOT, to report relative to actions the City can take to prohibit the harassment of bicyclists in the City of Los Angeles, and to recommend legislation or administrative changes that require action by the State of California to address this matter. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



BILL ROSENDAHL, CHAIR
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE



PAUL KORETZ, MEMBER
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
ROSENDAHL:	YES
LABONGE:	ABSENT
ALARCON:	ABSENT
PARKS:	ABSENT
KORETZ:	YES

SG
1/19/10
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Not Official Until Council Acts

ADOPTED

JAN 27 2010
* As Amended
LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

See Attached notes

VERBAL MOTION

I HEREBY MOVE that Council AMEND the Public Safety Committee Report and Communication from Chair and Member Transportation Committee (Item No. 22, CF 09-2895) relative to prohibiting the harassment of bicyclists in the City of Los Angeles to DIRECT the Los Angeles Department of Transportation and REQUEST the City Attorney to report back to the Council in 30 days on an ordinance to prohibit harassment and other actions the City can take to prohibit harassment of bicyclists.

PRESENTED BY _____
BILL ROSENDAHL
Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY _____
GREIG SMITH
Councilmember, 12th District

January 27, 2010

CF 09-2895

ADOPTED
JAN 27 2010
LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL