13-1195

TRANSPORTATION

MOTION

The City's roadway system has been developed to move an increasing number of motorized vehicles and not as a way to accommodate other means of transportation. This focus has ignored the need to support and foster communities, despite the evidence that walking and cycling promote healthy lifestyles, reduce air pollution and relieve traffic congestion. This situation is, in part, attributable to a lack of data on pedestrian and cyclist activity upon which the City can base infrastructure development decisions.

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), in collaboration with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) and UCLA, recently established a Bicycle Data Clearinghouse to create a data standard for bicycle count data collected in Los Angeles County. SCAG is encouraging local municipalities to gather data using a standardized methodology, which will then be shared with the general public. The information being compiled will provide an essential metric for policymakers to make informed choices about future transportation priorities.

The Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition (LACBC), in collaboration with LA Walks, will conduct their third bicycle and pedestrian count in September 2013. The data collected through this effort will be analyzed and included into the Bicycle Data Clearinghouse, thereby providing a significant source of information.

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) does not directly collect bicycle and pedestrian data, but has required that bicyclist and pedestrian counts be conducted along with automobiles when traffic studies are required for new development. To contribute the data to the Bicycle Data Clearinghouse, LADOT must ensure that the consultants collecting the bicycle and pedestrian data follow the standards established by SCAG and Metro.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council invite the Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition (LACBC) to present the results of their 2013 Bicycle and Pedestrian Counts, including their findings and trends in bicycle and pedestrian activity in the City.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Department of Transportation report on the current data collection methodology utilized in their Traffic Study Guidelines and recommendations on how these requirements can be adjusted to comport with the standard methodology established for the Southern California Association of Governments' Bicycle Data Clearinghouse.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Department of Transportation report on best practices used by other cities in counting bicycles and pedestrians, including but not limited to, temporary and permanent automated systems that count volumes on frequently traveled streets, as well as options to measure the difference in bicycle and pedestrian activity after projects are constructed.

PRESENTED BY EBONIN

Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY