

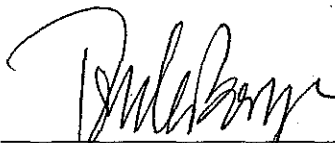
MAR 27 2009


MOTION

The authority to govern the riding of bicycles on sidewalks is ceded to the City by the State of California, per the California Vehicle Code Section 21100, which allows that, "Local authorities may adopt rules and regulations by ordinance or resolution regarding the following matters: (h) Operation of bicycles...on the public sidewalks." The LAMC 56.15 (amended by Ord. No. 148,990, effective 12/17/76) reads: " No person shall ride, operate or use a bicycle, unicycle, skateboard, cart, wagon, wheelchair, rollerskates or any other device moved exclusively by human power, on a sidewalk, bikeway or boardwalk in a willful or wonton disregard for the safety of persons or property."

Some individuals and children are not comfortable or skilled enough to ride on arterial roadways with high traffic volumes or vehicular speeds and may desire to ride their bicycles on sidewalks for short distances. Unfortunately, bicyclists riding on sidewalks that intersect with driveways or that ride through roadway intersections are at additional risk if they are traveling on the sidewalk in a direction opposite of traffic on the roadway. It is critical that bicyclists who ride on sidewalks operate in a careful and prudent manner and at a rate of speed that is reasonable and proper under existing conditions and current uses given grade, width, and surface conditions.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council request that the City Attorney revise the Los Angeles Municipal Code to add a new section that would require bicyclists operating on sidewalks to: ride at a speed that is reasonable and proper; yield to pedestrians at all times; and audibly notify pedestrians when making passing movements.

PRESENTED BY: 
TOM LABONG
Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY: 

ORIGINAL

09-0680

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