



Office of the City Clerk



R2012-699

Office of the City Clerk

City Council Document Tracking Sheet

Meeting Date: 7/25/2012

Sponsor(s): Laurino, Margaret (39)
Graham, Deborah L. (29)
Reboyras, Ariel (30)
Reilly, Brendan (42)
Smith, Michele (43)
Tunney, Thomas (44)
Osterman, Harry (48)

Type: Resolution

Title: Call for hearing(s) to discuss improvements for traffic safety between bicycles and cars

Committee(s) Assignment: Committee on Pedestrian and Traffic Safety

Traffic

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the health and wellbeing of residents of the City of Chicago is of the utmost importance; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago recognizes that millions of Americans engage in bicycling as it is a viable and environmentally sustainable form of transportation, an excellent form of fitness and provides quality family recreation; and

WHEREAS, the City has a reputation as being Bike Friendly and continues to develop programs to actively encourage all residents to ride bicycles; and

WHEREAS, as more cyclists share the roads with motorists, the risks and hazards increase for both groups; and

WHEREAS, the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) estimated that there are approximately 69 bicycle related injuries per thousand each year in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's (CPSC) estimates that there are one million injuries involving bicycles every year at an approximate cost of \$8 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that more than 700 people die each year as a result of bicycle related injuries; and

WHEREAS, it is important to note that bicycles are considered vehicles and, as such, are subject to the rules of the road; and

WHEREAS, drivers of all vehicles must acknowledge their role in promoting safety while navigating city streets; and

WHEREAS, Transportation Alternatives, a New York bicycling advocacy group, has developed an education and outreach program called "Biking Rules" that seeks to educate cyclists about their responsibilities when riding on city streets; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago seeks to promote and encourage a safe atmosphere for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians by stressing the importance of courtesy, common sense and obeying the rules of the road; NOW THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED, that Committee on Pedestrians and Traffic Safety hereby calls upon the Illinois Secretary of State, or his designee, the Superintendent of the Chicago Police Department, or his designee, the Commissioner of the Chicago Department of Transportation, the Active Transportation Alliance and members of the cycling

community to appear before the aforementioned Committee to testify regarding bicycling traffic incidents, the governing rules of the road for bicycles and their application, and general cycling issues so that the City of Chicago might improve traffic safety between bicycles and cars.

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~~Mr. Kenney 44~~
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Margaret Laurino
Margaret Laurino
Alderman, 39th Ward

Debra J. Jackson 29th

Michelle S. W. 43rd