

RESOLUTION NO. 21-_____

Resolution Of The City Council Of The City Of Emeryville In Support Of Assembly Bill 122 – (Boerner-Horvath), Bike Safety At Stop Signs

WHEREAS, AB 122, also known as the Safety Stop, would authorize a person riding a bicycle to treat a stop sign as if it were a yield sign, giving the right-of-way to other traffic at an intersection before proceeding safely through, but without the requirement to come to a full stop; and

WHEREAS, bicycling is an important part of a sustainable transportation system, but, as it continues to grow as a method of transportation in our communities, bicyclists face traffic danger while on the road; and

WHEREAS, as a result, many people choose to avoid the direct routes to their destinations, opting instead to travel on side streets with less traffic, where they face frequent stop signs often placed deliberately to deter through automobile traffic, and having to stop and restart repeatedly can be a deterrent to bicycling and research has found that it reduces the distance that people are willing to ride; and

WHEREAS, Oregon and Washington have already reformed their laws implementing Safety Stops; Idaho, Delaware, Arkansas, and Colorado have all passed versions of this law, and North Dakota, New Jersey, New York, Oklahoma, Utah and Virginia are all considering similar legislation this year; and

WHEREAS, an additional consideration is that cyclists of color are often faced with being detained and cited by law enforcement for bicycle infractions as they are disproportionately stopped and cited for vehicle code infractions, including when riding a bike and AB 122 will improve equity among California residents by providing clarity to the law while also decreasing potentially lethal interactions with law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the Safety Stop does not change the normal rules of yielding at an intersection; people on bikes will still be required to yield to pedestrians and to other traffic in the intersection or approaching the intersection with the right-of-way, but legalizes common practice, which is to slow down as they approach an intersection, check for traffic, proceed if it is safe, and stop if it is not; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Emeryville that it expresses its support for Assembly Bill 122 (Boerner-Horvath), and that the California legislature pass and the Governor sign into law Assembly Bill 122 and, be it, further

RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Emeryville that copies of this Resolution will be sent to the Office of California Assembly Member Friedman, Chair, Assembly Committee on Transportation, along with a copy of the letter referenced below and, be it, further

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RESOLVED, the Mayor of Emeryville shall submit a letter of support for Assembly Bill 122 to the Office of Assembly Member Friedman, Chair, Assembly Committee on Transportation.

ADOPTED, by the City Council of the City of Emeryville at a regular meeting held Tuesday, June 15, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: _____
NOES: _____
ABSTAIN: _____
ABSENT: _____

MAYOR

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

CITY CLERK

DocuSigned by:
Andra Visveshwara
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INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY