

File Number**07-0002-S7****Last Changed Date**

12/21/2006

Title

AMENDMENT OF CALIFORNIA VEHICLE CODE / ASSIGN
RESPONSIBILITY OF COLLISION BETWEEN VEHICLE AND BICYCLE TO
MOTORIST

Initiated by

Reyes Mover 2006 / Rosendahl

Subject

Resolution - WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations, or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal governmental body or agency must first have been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, bicycle transportation is an integral part of the

"multi-modal" transportation system planned by federal, state, regional and local transportation agencies; and

WHEREAS, bicyclists on public streets have the same rights and responsibilities as automobile drivers and are subject to the same rules and regulations; and

WHEREAS, bicyclists who have been involved in an accident with an automobile may sustain serious physical injuries, such as broken bones, however, serious collisions can result in head injuries which are responsible for most bicycle related fatalities and long-term disabilities; and

WHEREAS, motorists often focus on other motorists and fail to pay proper attention to cyclists; and

WHEREAS, the failure to yield the right-of-way to a cyclist is the most common cause of automobile - bicycle collisions and our car-centered culture seems to automatically assign blame for these accidents to the bicyclists; and

WHEREAS, in areas of Europe where riding bikes is a common form of transportation, there is a presumption that all vehicle collisions with bicyclists are the fault of the motorists; and

WHEREAS, this presumption needs to be applied in California so that we can increase the awareness of bicycling as a safe and viable mode of transportation;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2007-2008 State Legislative Program SPONSORSHIP or SUPPORT of legislation that would amend the California Vehicle Code to assign responsibility of any collision between vehicles and bicyclists to the motorist.

Date Received

12/20/2006

File History

12-20-06 - This day's Council session

12-20-06 - Ref to Intergovernmental Relations Committee

12-20-06 - File to Intergovernmental Relations Committee Clerk

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