
City Council

Notice of Motion

MM52.21	ACTION			Ward: All
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Harmonization and Enforcement of Sidewalk Cycling By-Laws in the City of Toronto - by Councillor Stintz, seconded by Councillor Jenkins

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Public Works and Infrastructure Committee. A two thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Stintz, seconded by Councillor Jenkins, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Toronto Police Services Board to request the Chief, Toronto Police Service to create a strategy to enforce sidewalk cycling related by-laws in the City of Toronto.
2. City Council request the Toronto Police Services Board to request the Chief, Toronto Police Service, to review, in consultation with Transportation Services, ticketing procedures for sidewalk cycling infractions.

Summary

Cycling in Toronto is increasingly becoming a more common mode of transportation. Expanding cycling infrastructure and resultant opportunities to cycle, combined with increasing numbers of cyclists, creates a greater responsibility to enforce our by-laws regulating the use of bicycles, particularly on municipal sidewalks. Doing so will enable us to achieve the paramount goal of enhancing safety for all pedestrians and cyclists.

Presently, an existing by-law prohibits cycling on sidewalks for tire sizes over 24 inches (61cm). Cycles with tires sizes less than the aforementioned are permitted to ride on the sidewalk. The intention of this by-law is to allow young children to cycle on the sidewalk while they are learning to ride.

The combination of pedestrians and cyclists on sidewalks can be hazardous, particularly for senior citizens and pedestrians with visual, hearing or mobility impairments. As such, the by-laws and associated fines regulating cycling need to be harmonized across the city and enforced to improve pedestrian safety.

By-laws regulating cycling in Toronto are enforced by the Toronto Police Service.

(Submitted to City Council on August 25 and 26, 2010 as MM52.21)