

Tinti, Elisa

From: Sarah Wenk <smwenk2@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 30, 2023 3:51 PM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Fwd: Bike legislation

Hi Elisa, I emailed this to the council members, but I'd like to also have entered as public comment for the next meeting.

Thanks so much.

Begin forwarded message:

From: Sarah Wenk <smwenk2@gmail.com>
Date: May 30, 2023 at 10:11:21 AM EDT
To: Barbara Hill <ward1@kingston-ny.gov>, "Frankel, Carl" <ward2@kingston-ny.gov>, ward3@kingston-ny.gov, "Worthington, Rita" <ward4@kingston-ny.gov>, "Muhammad, Naimah" <Ward5@kingston-ny.gov>, ward6@kingston-ny.gov, ward7@kingston-ny.gov, ward8@kingston-ny.gov, Michelle Hirsch <ward9@kingston-ny.gov>
Subject: Bike legislation

Hello Council members,

I'm writing in regard to the proposed "bike" legislation that is making its way through the city's process.

I'm very concerned that rules for resident cyclists and for customers of bike share/ebike vendors are getting conflated in ways that will make riding in Kingston even more difficult and dangerous than it currently is. Why does the city need rules that override existing NY State rules, for example, about riding 2 abreast? Why are wheelies being prohibited when drivers can ignore stop signs and no right on red indicators with impunity? Why are cyclists prohibited from wearing earbuds or using a mobile device, when there is no enforcement of those rules for drivers, who are far, FAR more dangerous?

It seems as if these new rules were bundled into the legislation without any real public input or serious research into what new regulations, if any, Kingston really needs.

I strongly urge the Council to study this situation closely before passing such a sweeping blanket set of rules. We are at a crucial point in changing the relationships among drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians. Great care is needed to make sure every constituency is fairly and equally represented.

Thank you,

Sarah Wenk

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