

CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 09-0176R
(Resolution)

Introduced by: Councilmembers Clarke, Henry, Middleton, Branch, Kraft, Young, Spector,
Welch, Reisinger, Holton, Cole, Conaway, Curran, D'Adamo

Introduced and read first time: December 10, 2009

Assigned to: Community Development Subcommittee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Planning Department, Department of
Public Works, Police Commissioner, Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts, Commission
on Sustainability, Baltimore City Parking Authority Board, Department of Transportation

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **The Cyclists' Bill of Rights**

3 FOR the purpose of reaffirming support for efforts to improve conditions for cyclists and
4 encouraging more widespread awareness of the "Cyclists' Bill of Rights" .

5 **Recitals**

6 The widespread use of bicycles brings many benefits to a community. Cycling improves
7 people's health, increases public safety, encourages greater involvement in communities, reduces
8 traffic congestion, improves air quality, reduces our reliance on fossil fuels, and generally is
9 better for the environment than alternate methods of travel.

10 The City of Baltimore has long recognized these myriad benefits and has therefore
11 consistently sought to encourage cycling. In these efforts, the City has been blessed with a
12 strong and vibrant local cycling community eager to serve as a partner. Many in the cycling
13 community throughout the nation have begun to promote a "Cyclists' Bill of Rights" that they
14 feel encapsulates the treatment that cyclists should be able to expect from government.

15 This "Cyclists' Bill of Rights" expresses the following tenets:

- 16 1. Cyclists have the right to travel safely and free of fear.
- 17 2. Cyclists have the right to equal access to our public streets and to sufficient and
18 significant road space.
- 19 3. Cyclists have the right to the full support of educated law enforcement.
- 20 4. Cyclists have the right to the full support of our judicial system and the right to
21 expect that those who endanger, injure, or kill cyclists will be dealt with to the full
22 extent of the law.
- 23 5. Cyclists have the right to routine accommodations in all roadway projects and
24 improvements.

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter deleted by amendment.

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- 1 6. Cyclists have the right to urban and roadway planning, development, and design that
2 enable and support safe cycling.
- 3 7. Cyclists have the right to traffic signals, signage, and maintenance standards that
4 enable and support safe cycling.
- 5 8. Cyclists have the right to be actively engaged as a constituent group in the planning
6 and implementation of roadway and transit projects.
- 7 9. Cyclists have the right to full access for themselves and their bicycles on all mass
8 transit.
- 9 10. Cyclists have the right to end-of-trip amenities that include safe and secure
10 opportunities to park their bicycles.
- 11 11. Cyclists have the right to be secure in their persons and property and be free from
12 unreasonable search and seizure, as guaranteed by the Fourth Amendment.
- 13 12. Cyclists have the right to peaceably assemble in the public space, as guaranteed by
14 the First Amendment.

15 The City has repeatedly signaled its agreement with these principals in the past - notably, by
16 including policies that further the goals articulated in the “Cyclists’ Bill of Rights” in its *Bicycle*
17 *Master Plan*. Today, the City Council reaffirms its support for efforts to improve conditions for
18 cyclists by encouraging more widespread awareness of the “Cyclists’ Bill of Rights” among
19 government agencies and the general public.

20 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That this
21 Body affirms its support for the principals contained in the “Cyclists’ Bill of Rights” and
22 encourages all citizens to have a greater appreciation for the rights of cyclists.

23 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the
24 Mayor’s Bicycle Advisory Committee, the Bicycle Coordinator for Baltimore City, the Director
25 of the Office of Sustainability, the Director of Public Works, the Director of Transportation, the
26 Police Commissioner, the Planning Director, the City Solicitor, the Director of the Baltimore
27 Office of Promotion and the Arts, the Executive Director of the Parking Authority, and the
28 Mayor’s Legislative Liaison to the City Council.