



A community group dedicated to biking in Santa Monica.

Working to make the City of Santa Monica a more sustainable, bikeable place to live, work and play.

May 14, 2024

Support Agenda Item 10A

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

Santa Monica Spoke and the Santa Monica Safe Streets Alliance strongly support this vital initial step of the Anti-Harassment of Bicyclists Ordinance. We believe we must bring our City's and community's efforts together to move beyond an automobile-driven existence and meet our Vision Zero commitment for street safety along with our climate goals by now providing for a private right of action against anyone harassing people riding bicycles. In our opinion it is a lost opportunity to not have a broader ordinance that includes all vulnerable road users, including people walking while traveling on our streets. Santa Monica's best message is that we welcome people bicycling – and walking – and in fact prioritize the safety of our most vulnerable road users, people biking and walking!

With the proposed ordinance, we appreciate the staff considering an effective means of conveying that message meaningfully and enabling people biking to have confidence that our City and community support their rights while also having the wherewithal to bring a civil action against harassment.

As Council has requested this ordinance to become part of our Municipal Code, we look forward to an authentic advancement of the Anti-Harassment of Bicyclists Ordinance

Sincerely,

Cynthia Rose
Director, Santa Monica Spoke
Co-Chair, Santa Monica Safe Street Alliance
SMSpoke.org
SaMoSafeStreets.org

Cris Gutierrez
Co-Chair, Santa Monica Safe Streets Alliance

SANTA MONICA
Safe Streets Alliance

*Safe, livable, and sustainable streets are welcoming to everyone
and strengthen our community.*
