



CITY OF DUNWOODY

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MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council

From: Richard Meehan, Director of Public Works

Date: November 16, 2009

Subject: **Discussion on Resolution of Action Plan for Bicycle Friendly Community**

As requested by members of the City Council, attached is a Draft Resolution to Adopt an Action Plan for Bicycle Friendly Community. The content is the same as what was provided by the Dunwoody Bicycle Task Force with edits made only to put it into proper legal resolution format.

**A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT AN ACTION PLAN FOR BICYCLE FRIENDLY
COMMUNITY**

WHEREAS, The City of Dunwoody is charged with safeguarding the health, safety and welfare of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, The City of Dunwoody recognizes that cities across the globe are managing diverse issues such as pollution, congestion, traffic safety, accessibility, social inclusion, and economic growth. Increasing urbanization and sprawl is generating extra demand for quality public spaces and recreation opportunities. A renewed emphasis on security and the costs of dealing with the emerging epidemics of obesity and physical inactivity are stretching limited resources even further. Solutions to these many challenges are equally diverse and complex. This Resolution recognizes one policy initiative that addresses these challenges and contributes to many of the solutions necessary to improve the quality of life in cities: increasing the percentage of trips made by bicycle by making the City of Dunwoody more bicycle-friendly; and

WHEREAS, The City of Dunwoody recognizes that increasing bicycle use can:

Improve the environment by reducing the impact on residents of pollution and noise, limiting greenhouse gases, and improving the quality of public spaces.

Reduce congestion by shifting short trips (the majority of trips in cities) out of cars. This will also make cities more accessible for public transport, walking, essential car travel, emergency services, and deliveries.

Save lives by creating safer conditions for bicyclists and as a direct consequence improve the safety of all other road users. Research shows that increasing the number of bicyclists on the street improves bicycle safety.

Increase opportunities for residents of all ages to participate socially and economically in the community, regardless income or ability. Greater choice of travel modes also increases independence, especially among seniors and children.

Boost the economy by creating a community that is an attractive destination for new residents, tourists and businesses.

Enhance recreational opportunities, especially for children, and further contribute to the quality of life in the community.

Save city funds by increasing the efficient use of public space, reducing the need for costly new road infrastructure, preventing crashes, improving the health of the community, and increasing the use of public transport.

Enhance public safety and security by increasing the number of “eyes on the street” and providing more options for movement in the event of emergencies, natural disasters, and major public events.

Improve the health and well being of the population by promoting routine physical activity.; and

WHEREAS, The World Health Organization Charter on Transport, Environment and Health, 1999 states “We will promote safe and environmentally friendly cycling and walking by providing safe infrastructure and networks...”, and

WHEREAS, “The US Conference of Mayors calls on cities and communities to promote increased safe bicycle use for transportation and recreation...”, and

WHEREAS, The City of Dunwoody is committed to improve conditions for bicycling and to realize the significant potential benefits of bicycling in our community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Dunwoody, to adopt the following **Action Plan for Bicycle Friendly Community**.

The City of Dunwoody will adopt a target level of bicycle use (e.g. percent of trips) and safety to be achieved within a specific timeframe, and improve data collection necessary to monitor progress; and

The City of Dunwoody will provide safe and convenient bicycle access to all parts of the community through a signed network of on and off-street facilities, low-speed streets, and secure parking. Local cyclists should be involved in identifying maintenance needs and ongoing improvements; and

The City of Dunwoody will establish information programs to promote bicycling for all purposes, and to communicate the many benefits of bicycling to residents and businesses (e.g. with bicycle maps, public relations campaigns, neighborhood rides, a ride with the Mayor) ; and

The City of Dunwoody will be a model employer by encouraging bicycle use among its employees (e.g. by providing parking, showers and lockers, and establishing a city bicycle fleet) ; and

The City of Dunwoody will ensure all city policies, plans, codes, and programs are updated and implemented to take advantage of every opportunity to create a more bicycle-friendly community. Staff in all departments should be offered training to better enable them to complete this task; and

The City of Dunwoody will educate all road users to share the road and interact safely. Road design and education programs should combine to increase the confidence of bicyclists; and

The City of Dunwoody will enforce traffic laws to improve the safety and comfort of all road users, with a particular focus on behaviors and attitudes that cause motor vehicle/bicycle crashes; and

The City of Dunwoody will develop special programs to encourage bicycle use in communities where significant segments of the population do not drive (e.g. through Safe Routes to Schools programs) and where short trips are most common; and

The City of Dunwoody will promote intermodal travel between public transport and bicycles, e.g. by putting bike racks on buses, improving parking at transit, and improving access to rail and public transport vehicles; and

The City of Dunwoody will establish a citywide, multi-disciplinary committee for nonmotorized mobility to submit to the Mayor/Council a regular evaluation and action plan for completing the items in this Action Plan; and

SO RESOLVED AND EFFECTIVE this ____day of _____, 2009.

City of Dunwoody Mayor

Ken Wright

Attest:

Sharon Lowery, City Clerk