



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Councilmember Johnny Khamis

SUBJECT: Downtown Sidewalk
Bicycle Riding

DATE: November 26, 2014

APPROVED:

DATE: 11/26/14

RECOMMENDATION

1. Implement bicycle ban as recommended in the staff report but limit the ban to streets with existing dedicated bicycle lanes in the Downtown Skateboard Prohibition Zone. Provide an exception for the circumstance in which a bicycle must use the sidewalk to circumvent a blockage in the bicycle lane caused by a stopped vehicle or construction.
2. Adopt recommendation #1 from Councilmember Rocha's Memo dated 11-26-14 on all other sidewalks within the Downtown Skateboard Prohibition Zone.
3. Adopt recommendations #2 and #3 from Councilmember Rocha's Memo dated 11-26-14
4. Adopt recommendation #2 from Councilmember Herrera's Memo dated 11-26-14 to direct staff to study adding bike infrastructure enhancements, including protected bicycle lanes, to Santa Clara Street, and report back to the Transportation and Environment Committee on potential projects and costs.

BACKGROUND

The Senior Citizens Commission, downtown residents, and pedestrians throughout the downtown area have shared with us their dissatisfaction with cyclists taking over downtown sidewalks with irresponsible behavior and little regard for the safety of pedestrians.

My colleagues, Councilmembers Herrera and Rocha, have proposed excellent ideas in their memos to curb reckless behavior and to separate cyclists from pedestrians and motor vehicles where it can be done in a safe manner. I support most of their key points as listed above, especially regarding Santa Clara Street. A protected bicycle lane is needed before a ban should be enacted on this specific roadway.