



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE • BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Lili Bosse, Mayor

August 18, 2022

The Honorable Tasha Boerner Horvath
Assemblymember, 76th District
1021 O Street, Room 4150
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: **AB 1713 (Boerner Horvath) Vehicles: Required Stops: Bicycles**
City of Beverly Hills – **OPPOSE**

Dear Assemblymember Muratsuchi,

The City of Beverly Hills has adopted a position of respectful **OPPOSITION** to AB 1713, your measure which would permit a person, 18 years of age or older, to treat stop signs as yield signs when riding a bicycle under certain conditions. You authored a similar measure in 2021 -- AB 122 -- which our city was poised to support if the measure was amended to apply only to those bicycle riders who are not required to wear a helmet under the California Vehicle Code (those aged eighteen and over). AB 122 was vetoed by the Governor as he felt the bill should not apply to children. We do recognize that AB 1713 has been drafted to include this important change.

We recognize that proponents argue that AB 1713 could improve safety for multi-modal road users through increased bicyclist visibility and reduced exposure in the intersection. The human eye typically can perceive moving objects better than stationary ones, especially when considering smaller objects. Therefore, allowing bicyclists to maintain a slight forward momentum potentially would make them more visible to drivers and minimize potential crashes.

Furthermore, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration ("NHTSA"), when bicyclists can maintain a safe but precautionary momentum through an intersection, it allows for continuous traffic flow. The state of Delaware, which has enacted a similar state law, reviewed data on crashes involving bicycles in the 30 months prior to and after their law enacted.


However, we are concerned that drivers and pedestrians who may be unaware of this proposed change in state law could cause a potential increase in accidents involving motorists and bicyclists at stop signs. AB 1713 could encourage unsafe bicycle riding behaviors – especially in younger, more inexperienced riders

which could lead to more bicycle crash fatalities, including children and teens. The bill could encourage children and teens to mimic dangerous bicycle riding behaviors as they observe adults not stopping at stop signs.

We are concerned that the traffic patterns and design of our intersections are more complex than other jurisdictions where this traffic policy may have had some success. It would be better to allow our city to have input and help tailor the rules of the road to fit our traffic pattern and road design for bicycling in through the City.

For these reasons, we respectfully **OPPOSE** AB 1713.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lili Bosse", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Lili Bosse,
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

cc: The Honorable Ben Allen, Senator, 26th District
The Honorable Richard Bloom, Assemblymember, 50th District
Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange