

CITY OF PORTAGE, MICHIGAN
RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT BICYCLE SAFETY

Minutes of a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Portage, Kalamazoo County, Michigan, held on _____, 20__ at 7:30 p.m. local time at City Hall in the City of Portage, Kalamazoo County, Michigan.

PRESENT: _____

ABSENT: _____

The following resolution was offered by:

COUNCILMEMBER: _____ and supported by:

COUNCILMEMBER: _____;

WHEREAS, the City of Portage's theme is a Natural Place to Move; and

WHEREAS, bicycling is considered to be a responsible means of travel, reducing greenhouse gases and our community carbon footprint; and

WHEREAS, bicycling provides a healthy alternative to automobile transportation; and

WHEREAS, the City of Portage has over two hundred (200) miles of major and local streets; and

WHEREAS, in order to provide safety and good health the City of Portage and its citizens encourage courtesy and safety as users of the public ways sharing the road; and

WHEREAS, the City of Portage's leadership in promoting bicycling, for all the benefits it brings, is currently recognized by the American League of Bicyclists as being a "Bronze" Level Bike Friendly Community; and,

WHEREAS, the Bike Friendly Community Award encompasses a widely respected approach for becoming even more bicycle friendly and promoting the communities that achieve such Awards; and,

WHEREAS, on April 27, 2016 Kalamazoo Area Transportation Study (KATS) adopted a plan for a network of bike routes throughout our metropolitan planning organization (MPO) identified in "Map 7: Proposed Commuter Bike Route Network" (Map 7) that, once implemented, will connect Portage to other jurisdictions throughout the entire MPO; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Portage, through education and enforcement, wishes to improve the safety of bicyclists on our roads by encouraging a "share-the-road" philosophy throughout the City and greater community; and

WHEREAS, increased darkness during this time of year also increases the need for heightened safety awareness on the part of non-motorized and motorized users alike, so that bicyclists can better "see and be seen"; and

WHEREAS, all Portage citizens are encouraged to respect the rights and safety of all of users of the public way by allowing for a five (5) foot buffer between motor vehicles and bicycles as each use the public ways; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Portage City Council, does hereby declare the months from September through April, as Bike Light Safety Season; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Portage commits to support and encourage implementation of the bike route network in the KATS Map 7; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Portage pledges to take the next steps to achieve the "Gold" Bike Friendly Community level designation of the League of American Bicyclists to further emphasize and promote bicycle transport and overall safety in our community.

ADOPTED:

YEAS: _____

NAYS: _____

ABSENT: _____

James R. Hudson, City Clerk

Approved as to form

Date: 11/8/16

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Randall L. Brown, City Attorney

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