

RESOLUTION NO.: R-2006-021

*Encouraging the development and adoption of a plan to make Columbia
a Bicycle Friendly Community*

Whereas, a Bicycle-Friendly Community provides safe accommodation for cycling and encourages its residents to bike for transportation and recreation; and

Whereas, cities across the globe are facing and managing diverse issues such as pollution, congestion, traffic safety, accessibility, social inclusion, and economic growth; and

Whereas, increasing urbanization and sprawl is generating extra demand for quality public spaces and recreation opportunities, and

Whereas, 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, and

Whereas, one policy initiative that addresses these challenges and contributes to many of the solutions necessary to improve the quality of life in cities is increasing the percentage of trips made by bicycle by making communities more bicycle-friendly; and

Whereas, we, the Mayor and members of Columbia City Council, recognize 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 of 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.

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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 Bicycle Friendly Committee was formed in 2006 to improve the quality of bicycling for the residents of the City of Columbia, South Carolina and to study and develop a plan of action to make Columbia a bicycle friendly community; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED this 17th day of May, 2006, that Columbia City Council does hereby encourage the development and adoption of a plan of action to make Columbia, South Carolina a Bicycle Friendly Community.

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Requested by:

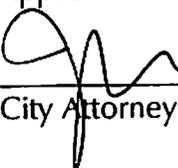
Dana D. Turner, Assistant City Manager


MAYOR

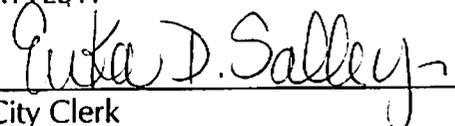
Approved by:


City Manager

Approved as to form:


City Attorney

ATTEST:


City Clerk

Introduced:

Final Reading: