

## Midtown Neighborhood Association

*Creating a strong community and a clean, safe and thriving neighborhood through partnerships*

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July 11, 2016

### VIA EMAIL

Fedolia "Sparky" Harris  
[FHarris@cityofsacramento.org](mailto:FHarris@cityofsacramento.org)

Hector Barron  
[HBarron@cityofsacramento.org](mailto:HBarron@cityofsacramento.org)

Dear Mr. Harris and Mr. Barron:

The Midtown Neighborhood Association's board of directors thanks the city for its effort to address safety for all travelers, including pedestrians, and we appreciate staff's work to prepare the proposed ordinance relating to bicycles on sidewalks. Our board supports the general goal of the ordinance, however, we have concerns with two elements.

First, the ordinance takes a pretty hard line against children using the sidewalk for bicycle riding. Under the proposed ordinance, anybody who allows a child to violate provisions of the ordinance would be subject to fines. We believe younger children should be able to ride on the sidewalks as they are both unsteady riders and much less visible, which puts them in considerable risk were they to ride in the street. Because of this risk, we request that the City exempt children 13 years old and under who are riding by themselves or with caregivers.

Second, the ordinance fails to give any guidance to the city manager to complete the duty that we see as the heart and soul of the ordinance: "The city manager shall establish a process for designating sidewalks where such signs are posted." We believe the ordinance should offer principals with which the city manager be guided by. We request that the city manager's designations be guided by the City's bicycle master plan: <https://www.cityofsacramento.org/Public-Works/Transportation/Programs-and-Services/Bikeway-Program>.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Angela Tillotson", with a long, sweeping underline.

Angela Tillotson  
Chair

cc: Steve Hansen, Councilmember District 4