

Concerns with Existing Ordinance

- Not consistent with national best practices
- Requires path riding on streets that have on-street bicycle facilities
- Requires bike registration when the national bike registry is used
- Prohibits sidewalk riding for any distance in non-designated area
- Causes problems for young or less confident cyclists

Proposed Ordinance - Sidewalks

- Sidewalk riding permitted subject to:
 - Cyclist must yield to pedestrian and give audible warning
 - Cyclist has rights of a pedestrian
 - Bicycling on sidewalk shall be prohibited in Commercial Zones on King Street, between West Street and the Potomac River, and on Union Street, between Prince Street and Cameron Street
 - Designation of additional zones within which bicycle riding is prohibited requires Director, Police approval, public hearing and T&P Board recommendation, and pursuant to criteria

Criteria for Additional Zones

- Logical and recognizable zone with common features, commercial activity, high volumes of pedestrian traffic
- A proposed zone should have several of the following conditions present in order to have bicycling prohibited on the sidewalks therein:
 - Sidewalks with high volumes of pedestrian activity (over 150 persons per hour);
 - A significant percentage of the block faces within the zone contain ground floor commercial development;
 - Within an outdoor dining district;
 - Relatively narrow sidewalks; e.g., with clear width of 5 feet or less

Recommendation and Next Steps

- Staff recommends that City Council adopt proposed changes
- When adopted, staff will move forward with notification on maps, signs, website, and other tools to communicate King and Union Street zones where bicycle riding on sidewalks is not permitted