

PCR-167-08  
AMENDED

THE CITY OF WARWICK  
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. ...R-08-136..... Date 10/21/08  
Approved *Paul Cardina* ..... Mayor

RESOLUTION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ENACT LEGISLATION  
FOR BICYCLIST SAFETY

RESOLVED, that

1 WHEREAS, using bicycles as forms of transportation and recreation are being promoted  
2 in many cities and states in the United States, including Rhode Island due to the increased price  
3 of gasoline, to reduce emissions and pollution and to enhance the health of riders; and  
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5 WHEREAS, unfortunately, 770 bicyclists died on U.S. roads in 2006, 90% of which were  
6 crashes involving motor vehicles; and  
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8 WHEREAS, approximately 540,000 bicyclists visit emergency rooms with injuries every  
9 year; and  
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11 WHEREAS, increased awareness of bicyclists on the road by motorists and tougher laws  
12 regarding safe distances between motor vehicles and bicycles on roads are needed to reduce the  
13 number of these tragic accidents; and  
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15 WHEREAS, other states, such as Florida and New Hampshire, have passed a three foot  
16 passing law which requires a safe distance between a bicycle and a motor vehicle when passing  
17 the bicycle; and  
18

19 WHEREAS, building a bicycle safe America is a giant task and the Warwick City Coun-  
20 cil recognizes that legislation is necessary in the State of Rhode Island to follow the New Hamp-  
21 shire and Florida laws on safe passing distances; and  
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23 WHEREAS, this is a matter of importance to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens  
24 of the City of Warwick as well as the entire State of Rhode Island.  
25

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City Council of the City of Warwick he-  
27 reby requests the General Assembly to enact legislation similar to the laws that have been  
28 enacted in the States of Florida and New Hampshire to require a three foot passing distance be-  
29 tween motor vehicles passing bicycles, and if it is impossible to achieve the three foot passing  
30 distance, then the vehicle shall reduce its speed to 10-20 miles per hour below the posted speed  
31 limit and to provide for a penalty requiring a fine, community service and license suspension.  
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33 The City Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Senators and  
34 Representatives from the City of Warwick and to the other city and town councils in the State of  
35 Rhode Island.  
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37 This Resolution shall take effect upon passage.  
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SPONSORED BY: COUNCILWOMAN TAYLOR  
COUNCILWOMAN TRAVIS

COMMITTEE: INTERGOVERNMENTAL  
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