

Pien, Janet

From: Jason Boynton [coachboynton@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, November 28, 2012 7:53 PM
To: ALL ALDERS; Tolley, Sabrina; Pien, Janet
Cc: amanda.white@wisconsinbikefed.org
Subject: SW Commuter Path Lights

Dear Alders,

I will not be able to make tonight's public hearing on the SW Commuter Path lights, but I wish to give my input via email.

As an owner of a small business in the Madison area that reaps the benefits of having an excellent cycling community to draw clients from, I write this email in support of the SW Commuter Path lights on behalf of myself and my clients in the area. To me, this is an issue of safety for me, my clients, and other cyclists. The SW Commuter Path is a major thoroughfare not only for commuters, but also for athletes and fitness minded individuals who ride bike. It is a portal to many great roads and parks for riding and training. As a peer to many athletes who use this path to get to places to do rides for fitness and training, I know most of them certainly own lights, but there are often times where these individuals get caught out without them. I know from personal experience that situations arise where training rides become longer due to unforeseen circumstances or daylight leaves sooner than expected. Even the most responsible, seasoned cyclist can be left without a light in these situations. This is one of the main reasons I feel it is good to have lights on this path. It is about more than just owning lights for your bike. It is about providing a safe path to ride on when conditions and circumstances are less than ideal.

Also, to reiterate a point I have read made by other cyclists, if this was a city street I feel there would be no question about whether or not it would be getting lights. If we are to expect cyclists to operate under the same laws and rules as other vehicles of the road, we should be providing their travel routes with equal safety measures and considerations.

Thank you,

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Jason Boynton M.S.
Exercise Physiologist
USA Cycling Level II Coach



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