From: <u>Jacob Moskowitz</u>

To: <u>Transportation Commission</u>

Subject: Path Speed Policy (2/27/24 Agenda Item 8)

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Hello members of the Transportation Commission,

I'm writing to oppose any regulation for bikes, including e-bikes, using our multi-use paths. The existing state law regarding e-bikes is sufficient and limits their speed to approximately the lowest common car speed limit (minus the 3-4 thousand extra pounds of metal).

The multi-use paths are an invaluable resource for our City, not only for recreation but also for commuting in a safe and responsible way. If more red tape is put up or the threat of enforcement looms for bike commuters, they will choose other methods of travel like driving single occupant vehicles, which are orders of magnitude more dangerous for pedestrians.

Instead I would support dedicated bike and pedestrian lanes on the paths (which may require expansion). In the meantime, both cyclists and pedestrians should be reminded of proper path etiquette. Yes, cyclists can sometimes travel too fast for conditions or pass too closely, but more commonly pedestrians are wandering across the path with earbuds in, completely oblivious to the fact that there might be bikes on a bike path.

To the extent that a problem exists, it can be solved by bike bells, pedestrian awareness, and a little common sense.

Jacob Moskowitz