



San Francisco Bicycle Coalition
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PROMOTING THE BICYCLE FOR EVERYDAY TRANSPORTATION

February 3, 2017

Assemblymember David Chiu
455 Golden Gate Avenue
Suite 14300
San Francisco, CA 94102

To Assemblymember David Chiu:

On behalf of the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition and our 10,000-plus members, I am writing to express our strong support for Automated Speed Enforcement (ASE) and the authorization of its use in San Francisco through state legislation.

A recent opinion poll of likely San Francisco voters shows that while 83% of voters believe that bicycling is good for San Francisco, the majority of respondents (52%) don't feel safe biking in San Francisco. When we think about what kind of city we live in, we need every tool in the toolbox to transform our streets for people. Automated Speed Enforcement is one of those tools.

ASE is already in use in over 140 communities around the United States with proven results to slow speeds, reduce collisions and decrease traffic fatalities. In San Francisco, speeding is the number one cause of serious and fatal collisions, but the use of ASE is illegal in the state of California. Meanwhile, in Washington, D.C. traffic fatalities have dropped 70% since ASE was authorized and implemented.

We know that people biking and walking are the most vulnerable road-users and are unequally affected when collisions occur. Slower speeds make our streets safe for everyone, and San Francisco can be the leader in pushing for solutions to this known problem.

Being the policy leader also means we can shape what the legislation and implementation of ASE looks like so that key concerns around privacy, equity and due process are addressed. We are confident that the current efforts to draft the legislation have taken a wide range of issues into account to make sure that ASE does not increase criminalization of behavior or expand police surveillance. We are also further advocating to ensure equity measures are built in so that low-income communities are not disproportionately affected. Ultimately, our goal is to have a successful program that slows speeds and saves lives, and we believe our current efforts will achieve that goal.

San Francisco has come together in expressing the need for ASE and the support for moving forward with state legislation. We stand with Mayor Ed Lee, our Board of Supervisors, the SF Municipal Transportation Agency, the Police Commission and dozens of organizations in urging you to move forward with legislation to authorize ASE.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Wiedenmeier". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Brian Wiedenmeier
Executive Director
San Francisco Bicycle Coalition