

Councillor Zondervan Amendments - POR 2023 #147

1. Strike the attachment (Red Line Draft 4).
2. Amend the policy order as follows:

WHEREAS: The Cycling Safety Ordinance was passed in 2019 and amended in 2020 in order to reduce injuries and deaths of people riding bicycles, by requiring safer streets designs with separated bicycle lanes; and

WHEREAS: Outdoor dining and events have become increasingly popular, providing additional public space and additional revenue for restaurants and small business owners, and have strong support in the cycling community; and

WHEREAS: Separated bicycle lanes and outdoor dining have been installed in a complementary way in some locations in Cambridge and neighboring cities yet the current situation is not the best solution; and

WHEREAS: Some concerns have been raised regarding the ability to implement seasonal outdoor dining and separated bicycle lanes on the same streets; including the potential to seasonally change these installations to allow for parking and loading uses during the winter, how to add new outdoor dining in locations where parking-protected bike lanes have already been installed, and the ability to maintain existing outdoor dining installations by aligning a separated bike lane around them; and

~~WHEREAS: It is not clear if the existing CSO allows for seasonal changes that protect cyclists and support small businesses seeking to use public space outdoors in the public way; now therefore be it~~

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back as soon as possible and no later than September 11, 2023 on whether change in language to the CSO is necessary to enable installation of permanent, seasonal, and/or temporary outdoor dining and pop-ups alongside separated bicycle lanes consistent with Cycling Safety Ordinance that address concerns about the current situation; and be it further

ORDERED: That if an amendment to the current CSO language is necessary, that the City Manager be and hereby is requested to work~~consult~~ with relevant City departments ~~on whether~~ the attached to propose language ~~is sufficient to that~~ protects cyclists and supports the goal of enabling flexible use of public ways ~~and if not what language could meet these goals~~ and report back at the next City Council meeting on September 11, 2023~~as soon as possible on this matter.~~