



City of Hermosa Beach

Civic Center, 1315 Valley Drive, Hermosa Beach, CA 90254-3885

March 22, 2023

The Honorable Dave Min
California State Senator, District 37
10th and O St. Offices, Ste 6710
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: SB 381 (Min) Electric Bicycles: Study—SUPPORT

Dear Senator Min:

On behalf of the City of Hermosa Beach, I am writing to express our support for SB 381, which would direct the Mineta Transportation Institute at San Jose State University to conduct a study on electric bicycles to inform efforts to improve the safety of riders and pedestrians. Specifically, this bill will look to guide research of key causes of injuries and fatalities from electric bicycle usage using data collected from a variety of sources.

The City of Hermosa Beach is a coastal community in Southern California and, since the pandemic, has observed a rise in electric bicycle sales. Although the surge in popularity for electrical bicycles is important for reducing carbon emissions generated by traditional gasoline-powered automobiles, electrical bicycles have also led to a rise in injuries, accidents, and emergency room visits. Our law enforcement department cannot solve this problem alone. We, as a city, have tried to solve this problem by focusing on the Three E's: Education, Engineering, and Enforcement, but it is not having a long-lasting effect, and cannot without proper legislation that controls who has access to these types of bicycles. Our community is pointing to our police officers to find a solution and it is setting an unrealistic expectation for all.

The legislative agenda in Sacramento over the past few years has focused on laws that minimize law enforcement's role in traffic stops for minor violations. By not addressing the issue, legislators are creating a reality where the only solution left for local communities is MORE police enforcement. Our own Chief of Police Paul LeBaron has been the chair of the California Peace Officers Association Law and Legislative Committee for the past two years and has worked extensively with lawmakers to bring about change in how law enforcement interacts with the community. A lack of movement on this issue is contrary to the good work being done in other areas.



For these reasons, the City of Hermosa Beach supports SB 381. Should you have any questions, contact our City Manager, Suja Lowenthal at suja@hermosabeach.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ray Jackson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ray Jackson
Mayor of Hermosa Beach

Copy: The Honorable Al Muratsuchi, California State Assemblymember, District 66
The Honorable Ben Allen, California State Senator, District 26