

Offered by JOHN R. CONNOLLY



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING A BIKE-SHARE PROGRAM IN BOSTON

WHEREAS, Bicycling brings many benefits to urban living: healthier residents, a cleaner environment, less traffic congestion, as well as increased community awareness and increased interest in promoting a bike-friendly city;

WHEREAS, The City of Boston is leading the effort to make Boston a “world-class biking city” with initiatives such as the Boston Bikes Summit, a comprehensive online biking map, and the creation and expansion of designated bicycle lanes around the city; *and*,

WHEREAS, The City is currently in the early-planning stages for a shared-bike program;

WHEREAS, A shared-bike program, which enables a rider to access a fleet of community bikes for short-term use, would further promote cycling as a mainstay form of transportation in and around the city by providing widespread, convenient, and low-cost access to bicycles;

WHEREAS, There are different models of community cycling programs, ranging from a free bike program that allows users to borrow city bicycles stationed at bike racks across the city, to a public/private partnership model similar to the Zipcar service; *and*,

WHEREAS, Rising gasoline costs and the dire environmental problems affecting our world and our city make greater investment in sustainable transportation options like a bike-share program a necessity for Boston’s future.

THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED,

That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing on the City’s efforts to build a bike-share program for Boston. The appropriate City departments, members of the public, and other interested parties shall be invited to attend.

Filed on: July 8, 2008