

RESOLUTION

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Item # 32733

RE: Bicycle Friendly Community Application for New Britain

To Her Honor, the Mayor, and the Common Council of the City of New Britain:
the undersigned beg leave to recommend the adoption of the following:

WHEREAS, Communities across the country are taking simple steps to make bicycling safe and comfortable and are realizing huge benefits in civic, community and economic development. Given the opportunity to ride, residents enjoy dramatic health benefits, reduced congestion, increased property values and more money in their pockets to spend in the local economy. Communities that are bicycle friendly are also seeing tourism boom and businesses that attract the best and the brightest employees while governments save on fuel and parking costs and cut their carbon emissions.

WHEREAS, The City's Complete Streets Master Plan for Downtown New Britain recognized that an important component of developing a livable community that best supports transit ridership and realizes Transit Oriented Development (TOD) opportunities associated with CTfastrak involves establishing a walkable and bicycle friendly community;

WHEREAS, In follow up to the Complete Streets Master Plan, in April of 2013, New Britain Public Works completed a City-wide Bicycle Connectivity and Traffic Calming Study which was adopted by the Board of Police Commissioners and the NBPD who are the City's Legal Traffic Authority;

WHEREAS, The City-wide Bicycle Connectivity and Traffic Calming Study established plans for dealing with vehicle speeding problems in some critical areas around the City, and established plans for bicycle connectivity around the City with a focus on connecting City parks, City schools, CCSU, and CTfastrak;

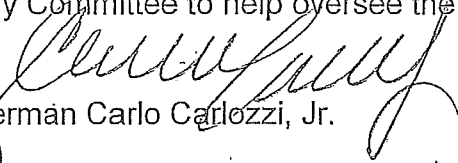
WHEREAS, Some of the City-wide Bicycle Connectivity and Traffic Calming Study's recommendations have already been put in effect on New Britain City streets including Eddy Glover Boulevard and John Downey Drive among other roadways, and are already seeing reductions in speeding and safer pedestrian and bicycles connections to places of business and City parks;

WHEREAS, The two bicycle friendly organizations, Bike-Walk Connecticut and the Connecticut Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board, have both recognized New Britain for their bicycle friendly community efforts including New Britain being named as the stand-out community by Bike-Walk Connecticut at their annual dinner in November of 2013;

WHEREAS, There is an active and growing bicycle advocacy group in the City, *Bike New Britain*, working in support of the City's bike friendly initiatives on activities like establishing a "borrow a bike program", bicycle education, bike donation, and other beneficial community activities;

WHEREAS, The League of American Bicyclists is nation-wide organization that has and oversees the "Bicycle Friendly Community" program and communities can apply and obtain several designation of "Bicycle Friendly Community" status at no cost to the community;

RESOLVED, The New Britain Common Council supports the City pursuing Bicycle Friendly Community status from the League of American Bicyclists, and, additionally, supports the City establishing a Bicycle Advisory Committee to help oversee the City's bicycle friendly community efforts.



Alderman Carlo Carlozzi, Jr.



Alderwoman Eva Magnuszewski



Alderman Don Naples



Alderman Emmanuel Sanchez

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No. _____ Rec'd 05/14/2014
(Above For Town Clerk's Use Only)

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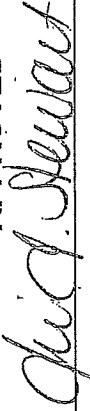
Re: BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY STATUS
AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BICYCLE
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ald. Carlozzi moved to accept and adopt,
seconded by Ald. Magnuszewski. So voted.



City Clerk

APPROVED



Mayor

5/19, 20 14