

To: Members of City Council
From: Ann Arbor Bicycle League
Date: November 6, 1972

I Review of actions of City Council relating to bicycles:

1. Council has appropriated a little over \$4,000 to develop experimental bike paths; although these have been helpful in preparing for future planning, they are of limited use since there are gaps in them and they do not connect to form a complete route to major destinations.
2. Bike racks have been installed on Main Street and many other locations.
3. Council has established a Public Improvement Fund for bikeways, safety sidewalks and wheelchair ramps. This money comes from the auction of stolen property, and may net on the order of \$6,000 per year.
4. Council has instituted city policy regarding public improvements:
 - a) Ramps to be installed at street corners for bikes and wheelchairs whenever sidewalks are to be replaced; *is that happening on Pontiac?*
 - b) All new roads constructed are to have provisions for non-motorized transportation.
5. The Ann Arbor Bicycle Path Study was authorized by council and financed under a grant to the Community Planning and Management project from federal funds. This study was given to Council in July and at that time Council agreed that time was needed at a working session to study the recommendations of the report. This has not yet been done; several specific recommendations need Council action to implement.
6. Council has committed \$2,000 from the fund mentioned in (3) above to finance a detailed plan for a complete network of bike paths. This project is now underway.

II Further Council actions recommended by the Ann Arbor Bicycle League:

1. Immediate action is needed to implement the recommendations in the Bicycle Path Study. The actions listed in I above have been taken without an overall plan or policy.
2. In particular, the Study urges the formation of a Bicycle Coordinating Committee. This is needed immediately to help Council work out the further implementation of the Study. This committee should report directly to Council.
3. The amount of money in the Capital Improvements Budget should be at least \$500,000, as recommended to you by the Planning Commission. This figure was adopted without opposition, and we know of no reason why this amount was cut by 60% before it reached Council. It is a very conservative amount for a complete network of bikeways.
4. We urge that Council place on the ballot next Spring a proposal for a bond issue to finance the bikeway network. This proposal should be separate from any other funds, so that the citizens of Ann Arbor may have a clear choice of how they want money spent for transportation in future years.