



February 5, 2026

**Mayor**

Lauren Kleiman

**Mayor Pro Tem**

Noah Blom

**Council Members**

Michelle Barto

Robyn Grant

Joe Stapleton

Sara J. Weber

Erik Kenneth Weigand

The Honorable Diane Dixon  
California State Assembly  
1021 O Street, Suite 5330  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1614 (Dixon) – Vehicles: Bicycles  
City of Newport Beach– Notice of Support**

Dear Assemblymember Dixon,

On behalf of the City of Newport Beach, I write to express our strong support for AB 1614, which seeks to improve bicycle rider safety by ensuring riders are seated on a seat affixed to the bicycle when on a Class I bikeway.

Safety for cyclists is paramount, given that cycling is not only a mode of transportation but also a form of recreation and exercise that promotes a healthy lifestyle. However, children and adolescents often face significant risks on the road, ranging from inadequate protective gear to challenges in navigating traffic. The measures proposed in AB 1614 can substantially address these issues.

Our City has seen significant issues over the past several years with multiple riders on a bicycle at the same time, often not wearing proper safety equipment and exceeding the maximum weight load of the vehicle. This commonsense legislation would increase awareness of the issue of overloading bicycles with passengers and ensure that riders are operating safely, especially on Class I bikeways, which are shared with pedestrians.

Among the significant concerns is the visibility and awareness of young riders. Children do not have the same judgment and experience as adults when it comes to maneuvering in traffic. They often lack the spatial awareness and ability to react quickly to unexpected obstacles or drivers' actions. AB 1614's approach to improving bicycle safety requirements is a commendable step in the right direction. By requiring that all cyclists are on a seat affixed to the bicycle when riding, AB 1614 helps ensure that riders will operate with increased safety and maintain clear visibility, rather than having

their view obstructed if another passenger is on the bike. By prohibiting riding without a seat on Class I bikeways, this bill also protects pedestrians who might otherwise be endangered by reckless riding on protected paths.

For these reasons, the City of Newport Beach is pleased to support AB 1614.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lauren Kleiman', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Lauren Kleiman  
Mayor  
City of Newport Beach

Cc: Newport Beach City Council