

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 18, 1983

COMMENTS BY  
CITY COUNCIL  
MEMBERS

Mayor Pro Tempore Snider presented the following letter which had been received from Jeane D. Ford. Following discussion, with the tacit concurrence of the Council, the matter was referred to Staff.

LETTER REC'D  
RE BICYCLE  
SAFETY

"When I saw the article in Thursday's paper which told of a 13 year old youth being struck by a car while on his bike, my first reaction was "I'm not a bit surprised." I'm sorry it happened, and pray he is all right, but I'm surprised it doesn't happen more often.

We have lived in Lodi almost a year and have been impressed with the friendly people, clean air, and pretty town. However, as soon as we moved here, we were amazed to see kids regularly riding their bikes down the wrong side of the street, disobeying traffic sign and laws, darting out unsafely, and laughing at motorists when we try to brake quickly because of their carelessness.

When children receive their first bike, they should be taught the laws of the road. The stop signs, traffic lights, etc. and all moving vehicles on the road, including bikes.

Our police should be ticketing these violators consistently. The City Council should take action to ensure that the police enforce the laws and that some system of education and punishment be set up for the violators. A bicycle court, mandatory for all ticketed bicyclists, is one suggestion. It has been proven to be an effective program in other areas.

These bike riders of today are the automobile drivers of tomorrow. The laws apply to both. Now is the time for them to apply them.

Sincerely,

Jeane D. Ford"