

12/03/2002

129-O-02

**AN ORDINANCE**

**Amending Section 10-9-5 of the Evanston City Code  
Providing for Mandatory Use of Helmets for Those  
Under Eighteen Years of Age While Riding Bicycles**

WHEREAS, the City of Evanston is a Home Rule Unit of government under Article VII of the 1970 Illinois Constitution and as such has specific powers related to the regulation of the health and safety of its population; and

WHEREAS, according to Chapter 625, Section 6/11-208(8) of the Illinois Compiled Statutes, municipalities are authorized to regulate traffic on its streets and public right-of-ways, including bicycles; and

WHEREAS, bicycle riding is an activity in which many children participate and which has the potential of significant risk of injury should a fall occur on a hard surface such as any paved public way; and

WHEREAS, such a fall could involve a serious risk of traumatic head injuries, including but not limited to long term brain injuries or death, imposing a substantial cost to the public and loss to the community; and

WHEREAS, protective helmets meeting the standards promulgated by the American National Standards Institute, American Society for Testing or the Snell Memorial Foundation can reduce the likelihood of debilitating head injuries; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that requiring helmets for bicycle riders under the age of eighteen (18) is in the best interest of the citizens of Evanston,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EVANSTON, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS:

**SECTION 1:** That representations set forth in the foregoing recitals are material and are hereby incorporated into and made part of this Ordinance as though they were fully set forth in their entirety in this SECTION 1.

**SECTION 2:** That Section 10-9-5 of the Evanston City Code, 1979, as amended, is further amended by adding the following new subsection:

**10-9-5: EQUIPMENT:**

- (D) Helmets. Every person under the age of eighteen (18) years shall wear a protective helmet that meets the standards promulgated by either the American National Standards Institute, the American Society for Testing, or the Snell Memorial Foundation, Inc., whenever that person is upon a public highway, sidewalk, bicycle path or other public right-of-way within the corporate limits of the City and is riding or being carried on any bicycle or any carrier attached to or pulled by a bicycle.

**SECTION 3:** That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 4:** That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval, and publication in the manner provided by law.

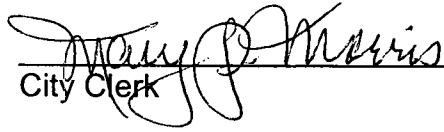
Introduced: December 16, 2002

Adopted: January 13, 2003


Approved: January 16, 2003

Lorraine A. Norton  
Mayor

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Approved as to form:

  
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Corporation Counsel

