



CITY OF NEW HAVEN
BOARD OF ALDERS

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Member:
Aldermanic Affairs Committee
City Services and Environmental Policy
Committee
Public Safety Committee

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Statement by Abigail Roth In Support of
Proposed Bill No. 502: An Act Concerning Bicycle Safety and Transportation Options

Committee on Transportation
February 11, 2015
Submitted by Abigail Roth

Distinguished Members of the Committee on Transportation:

I am writing to express my strong support for Proposed Bill No. 502. This bill will give municipalities in Connecticut the ability to design roads in a way that is safer for shared use by cyclists and motor vehicles. This has multiple benefits: obviously safety, but also encouraging exercise, reducing pollution, and improving commerce by enabling people to cycle to destinations that they otherwise might not feel safe cycling to. It is not surprising, therefore, that cities worldwide are recognizing the importance of making their streets safe for cycling.

In New Haven, where I am a member of the Board of Alders, the Mayor has emphasized that transportation is a civil right and this includes being able to safely cycle on city streets. New Haven has a large number of people who cycle on these streets to get to work and to school. This bill will make it safer for those who currently cycle and encourage many people who are scared to cycle in the city to start cycling, because it will allow for better bike lanes, cycle tracks, and other infrastructure changes.

I hope you will support this bill, which will benefit Connecticut residents in the many ways articulated above. Thank you for considering my remarks.

Sincerely,

ABIGAIL ROTH
Alder, 7th Ward