

ORDINANCE NO. _____

- An ordinance adding Section 56.15.3 to the Los Angeles Municipal Code to prohibit the assembly, disassembly, sale, offer of sale, distribution, offer of distribution, or storage of bicycles and bicycle parts on public property.

WHEREAS, bicycle theft is a pervasive and continuing problem across the City, with large numbers of bicycles reported stolen each year, and many more stolen but not reported to the authorities;

WHEREAS, the majority of stolen bicycles are not recovered due in large part to bicycles being dismantled and sold within days of being stolen;

WHEREAS, the City is aware of the proliferation of open-air bicycle “chop shops,” spaces on public property where individuals dismantle stolen bicycles and sell their parts or reassembled bicycles;

WHEREAS, once disassembled, the police cannot verify whether bicycle parts encountered on public property are associated with bicycles reported stolen;

WHEREAS, the City desires to deter bicycle theft by authorizing specific enforcement regulations to confront these illegal activities and restore passageways for pedestrians in the public right-of-way; and

WHEREAS, the City promotes the public health, welfare, and safety of its residents by prohibiting the operation of bicycle “chop shops” and removing bicycles and/or bicycle parts from public property.

NOW, THEREFORE,

**THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:**

Section. 1. Section 56.15.3 is added to the Los Angeles Municipal Code to read as follows:

**SEC. 56.15.3. PROHIBITION ON REPAIRS, SALES, AND STORAGE OF BICYCLES
AND BICYCLE PARTS ON PUBLIC PROPERTY.**

(a) The following definitions shall apply to this section:

(1) **“Bicycle”** means a transportation device with two or more wheels, equipped with handlebars, forks, cranks, pedals, and one or more seats, that is propelled either exclusively by human power or with assistance from a motor.

(2) **“Bicycle Part”** means handlebars, wheels, forks, pedals, cranks, seats, or chains.

(3) **“Person”** means a natural person, individual, group, business, business trust, company, corporation, joint venture, joint stock company, partnership, entity, association, club or organization composed of two or more individuals (or the manager, lessee, agent, servant, officer, or employee of any of them).

(4) **“Public Property”** means any public right-of-way, street, sidewalk, alley, parkway, public passageway, beach, park, or other public property owned or managed by the City.

(b) Except as otherwise stated in this section, no Person shall assemble, disassemble, sell, offer to sell, distribute, offer to distribute, or store the following items on Public Property within the City:

- (1) Five or more Bicycle Parts;
- (2) A Bicycle frame with the gear cables or brake cables cut;
- (3) Two or more Bicycles with missing Bicycle Parts; or
- (4) Three or more Bicycles.

(c) The prohibitions in Subsection (b) shall not apply to:

(1) A Person operating under a valid City business license or permit authorizing such activities.

(2) A Person in possession of a single Bicycle, which is being repaired as a result of malfunction or damage that occurred while the Person rode the Bicycle on Public Property. The sole purpose of the repair shall be to restore the Bicycle to its operational form and enable the Person to resume riding the Bicycle.

(d) **Severability.** If any subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this section, or any application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction, the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions shall not in any way be affected or impaired thereby and such provision shall be ineffective only to the extent of such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability.

Sec. 2. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance and have it published in accordance with Council policy, either in a daily newspaper circulated in the City of Los Angeles or by posting for ten days in three public places in the City of Los Angeles: one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall; one copy on the bulletin board located at the Main Street entrance to the Los Angeles City Hall East; and one copy on the bulletin board located at the Temple Street entrance to the Los Angeles County Hall of Records.

Approved as to Form and Legality

MICHAEL N. FEUER, City Attorney

By 
VIRGINIA CHOI
Deputy City Attorney

Date 2/28/22

File No. 21-1115

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The Clerk of the City of Los Angeles hereby certifies that the foregoing ordinance was passed by the Council of the City of Los Angeles.

CITY CLERK

MAYOR

Ordinance Passed _____

Approved _____