



MEMORANDUM

TO: William B. Horne III, City Manager

FROM: Jim Halios, Assistant to the City Manager *JH*

CC: Micah Maxwell, Assistant City Manager

DATE: August 7, 2019

RE: Proposal for use of mega cycles

Due to recent inquiries to the City Manager's office I was tasked with developing a workgroup to explore the validity of permitting mega cycles (Pedal Pubs) in our community more specifically the downtown and beach areas. The workgroup consisted of myself, Police Chief Dan Slaughter, Gina Clayton Planning & Development Director, Matt Smith Assistant City Attorney, Roger Johnson & Bennet Elbo Traffic Engineering. We reviewed the ordinances of neighboring communities as well as other municipalities on a state and national level. Our goal was to gain a perspective of how mega-cycles would impact our community. The group came to the following conclusions regarding the allowance and use of mega cycles in the City of Clearwater;

- Due to open container laws, public safety concerns and the need to change multiple ordinances. We recommend that alcohol should not be permitted to be served, transported or consumed on the mega cycle.
- As a result of recent traffic studies, we have seen a consistent increase in the level of vehicular traffic on the beach during the summer months (in addition to our already busy spring break season). Staff believes that mega-cycles on the beach will contribute to the already increased traffic congestion. It is the professional opinion of staff that non-motorized vehicles should not be allowed to traverse the roundabout, thus limiting the mega-cycles operational area on the beach. As a result of these findings we do not recommend allowing mega-cycles on Clearwater Beach.
- Mega-cycles could be allowed on certain streets within the downtown core while having designated starting/ending points.
- The mega-cycles would need to operate on designated streets (no sidewalks) with a speed limit of 35 MPH or less.
- We recommend allowing only one vendor with a limited number of cycles in use. This vendor would be selected based off an application process which if awarded

would require them to secure a BTR and proper insurance coverages deemed appropriate by the City of Clearwater.

- The mega-cycles should be required to have seatbacks and seatbelts. It should be a requirement that all riders wear seatbelts.
- The mega-cycle should have an operator and a separate safety officer who will enforce said rules.
- Mega-cycle routes should be restricted based on special events and street closures

Should the City of Clearwater decide to move forward with a mega-cycle vendor staff recommends a 6-month pilot program to further evaluate the demand for the mega-cycle and its impact on the community.