

Hi Good Legislators,

Please pass a careful version of the Idaho Stop Legislation. It has precedent in other jurisdictions and safety records there to validate its merit.

It would make bicycle transportation more efficient and easy, having a real affect on participation, which has a real positive affect on mitigating climate change, improving traffic flow, and increasing public health through greater bike trans trip numbers. Also, it is terribly important for changing the dynamics of bike commute routing, which benefits all road users. I often save 10 minutes and calories and my knees, on a 5 mile Portland commute by taking auto-dominated corridors which have a dearth of stop signs. See Sandy Blvd on the East side of Portland. I take it all the time and might take it none of the time, given better flow prospects on stop sign dominated streets. This represents absolute safety enhancement prospects.

Please also encourage and budget for a year of strict yield enforcement, in order to affect a culture of understanding and compliance. Do not let the bike community shoot it's own feet by allowing dangerous exploitation of the new access to travel continuity. As a carfree cyclist, I want my demographic to be hammered hard enough and often enough for improper Idaho-style yields, that a strong culture of compliance will be built, based on simple behaviorism cues.

I give permission to share my letter with anyone without further consent.

Thank you for hearing me out!

Sincerely,

Mike Cobb  
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"For the equivalent cost of a single mile of freeway, we have a bike infrastructure." - Portland Mayor Sam Adams

"Some of the anti-bicyclist sentiment is deserved...Bicyclists have a tendency to, first of all, break laws and take liberties that the brilliant machine makes possible, that's true; on the other hand, they tend to be quite defensive about their personal space in traffic. Slight encroachments are met with, at the least, glares and indignation. It's not so much the lawbreaking or the indignation but the combo of the two that does it. To the motorist it can appear bratty, selfish, and hypocritical." -Robert Hurst, The Cyclist's Manifesto