

January 10, 2007

Cambridge Cycling Campaign
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www.camcycle.org.uk



Two-way cycling in Kingston Street, Mackenzie Rd and Willis Rd

This letter and the petition below have been sent to residents in the vicinity of these streets and members of Cambridge Cycling Campaign, many of whom live in the area. We would welcome any comments you may have, via the above contact details. Please give us your support.

You may be aware that proposals have recently been circulated by the County Council to allow two-way cycling in Kingston Street, Mackenzie Rd and Willis Rd. We strongly support these proposals. Our letter to the Council can be seen on www.camcycle.org.uk. Key issues are:

- **Our area *needs* cycling solutions to ease the parking shortage and reduce traffic.**
Cycle-friendly proposals reduce the need for people to own and use cars. Councillors should be actively supporting cycling as a key component of solutions to ease road congestion and free up car parking spaces in Cambridge.
 - **Government guidance favours two-way cycling in one-way streets.**
Cyclists need direct and convenient routes. A great deal of evidence has accumulated that two-way cycling in one-way streets can be safely accommodated. Draft government guidance issued in 2004 states: "*Cyclists should be exempted from ... one-way orders ... unless there are overriding safety considerations that cannot be resolved.*" [Local Transport Notes 1/04].
 - **The evidence demonstrates lack of danger.**
Official Safety Audits for these schemes show no record of poor safety, despite heavy existing illegal contraflow use. Many nearby narrow streets allow two-way cycling without problems. Crucially, the proposals enable cyclists to legally avoid more dangerous roads.
 - **Current arrangements simply have the effect of criminalising many local cyclists.**
Illegal cycling cannot be condoned. However, many ordinary people who live on or near these streets choose to cycle in the contraflow direction because it forms a natural desire line for them.
 - **The Kingston Street route forms part of a key route for cyclists across Cambridge.**
Petersfield streets are used by people across Cambridge, not just local residents.
 - **Pedestrians are not harmed by cycling in two directions.**
Two-way cycling (or traffic generally) is the norm in most streets. The proposals contain pedestrian crossing points, the design of which we have proposed to improve, as detailed in a letter about the proposed changes on our website at www.camcycle.org.uk.
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If you agree with us, please sign our petition here or on our website. Drop the signed petition off at 35 Ainsworth Street or 80b York St **by 8pm on Thursday 11th January if possible, though later would still be useful.** Alternatively, e-mail the exact petition wording below, with your name and full address to contact@camcycle.org.uk (or post a completed petition to the address at the top of this letter).

We will not use your contact details for any purpose other than to reply, after submission of the petition, to tell you the outcome. However, please note that the Council may contact a sample of the respondents to check the validity of the petition.

Petition to Cambridge Traffic Management Area Joint Committee: We, the undersigned, ask Members of the Committee to give backing to the proposals to allow two-way cycling in Kingston Street, Mackenzie Rd and Willis Rd.

Name(s) in capitals:

Signature(s):

Full residential address incl. postcode: