



Pass Stop as Yield in the NYS Senate

What is Stop as Yield?

[A3986/S2643](#) - Stop as Yield (Idaho Stop) would amend the VTL to allow cyclists to treat stop lights as stop signs, and stop signs as yields. A3986 passed the Assembly in 2023.

Why do we need this bill?

- Fifty two cyclists were killed across New York in 2022. Enabling cyclists to enter an intersection before a green light gets them out of truck drivers' blind spots and past cars blocking bike lanes—two major causes of cyclist deaths.
- Allowing cyclists to yield at stop signs reduces fatigue—and time in intersections when they're apt to get hit. And it will facilitate [networks of bikeways along secondary roads](#) governed by stop signs that cyclists often steer clear of to avoid repeated stopping.



- [Eleven states](#) have passed “stop as yield” laws. [In 2022, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration found](#) these laws allow bicyclists to mitigate risk to their advantage. “Stopping discourages bicycling, substantially increasing time, energy expenditure, discomfort, risk of collisions, and risk for strain and overuse injuries”
- Making it safer and easier to bike will reduce vehicle miles traveled; enhance access to green space and public health; grow jobs and tourism; and broadly improve transportation equity, affordability and resilience—all goals of the [Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act](#).

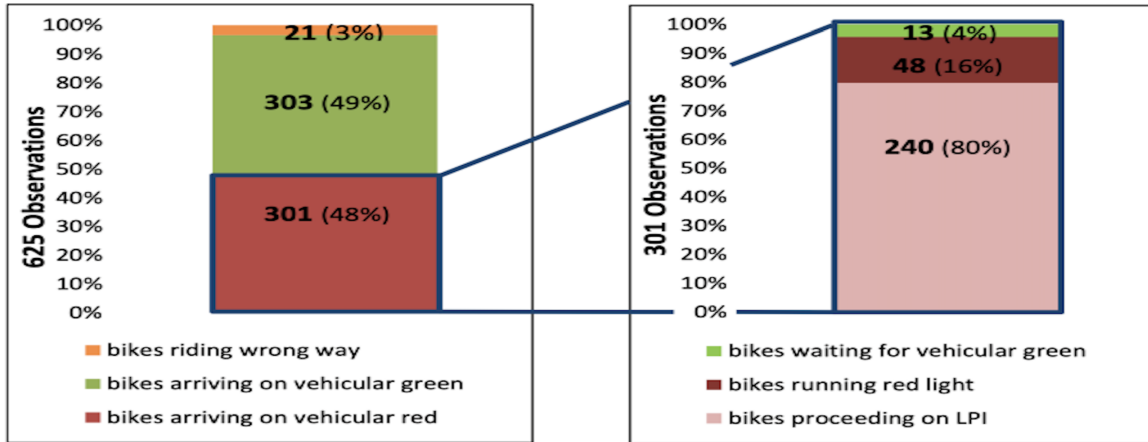
FAQ

Will Stop as Yield apply to EBikes?

Yes. At red lights, EBikes must come to a full stop and wait for cross traffic and pedestrians to clear before proceeding. At stop signs, EBikes must reduce speed and be prepared to yield to traffic and pedestrians.

Will Stop as Yield encourage cyclists to disobey traffic laws?

No. Just the opposite. In 2018, NYCDOT found that red light violations dropped 66% when cyclists were allowed to enter the intersection during the leading pedestrian interval (“LPI”)—the same behavior as would be allowed under stop as yield.

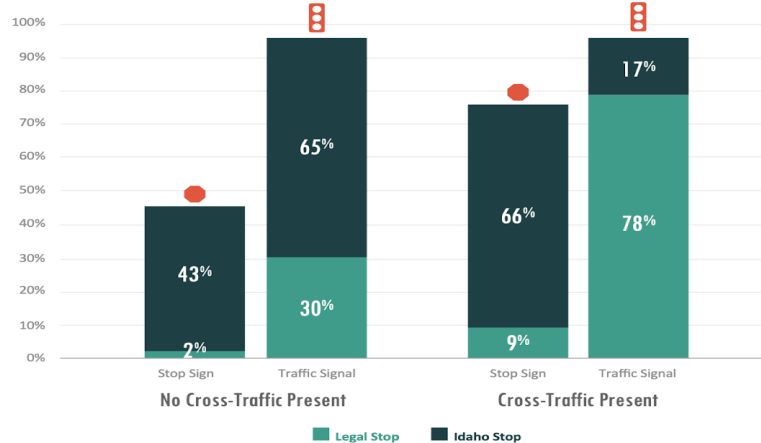


New York City Department of Transportation

Will Stop-as-Yield compromise enforcement?

No. The current law is typically enforced on cyclists whose actions pose no risk to themselves or others. Stop as Yield will focus on the **small group** who fail to “respect pedestrian right-of-way in a crosswalk” [VTL 1151(a)], or to “maintain a speed not reasonable or prudent” [VTL 1180(a)].

FIGURE 3: Legal and Idaho Stops at Chicago Intersections by Traffic Conditions



Chicago Department of Transportation

Resources: [NHTSA “Stop-As-Yield” Fact Sheet](#), [What’s Really Killing New York’s Cyclists?](#), [NYCDOT LPI Study](#), [Letter of Support](#), [“30 seconds to save a cyclists's life”](#)

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