From: Ellen Schwartze
To: Public Testimony
Subject: Fwd: Support Ordinance 220318
Date: Sunday, April 17, 2022 9:18:49 PM

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to ask the council support Ordinance 220318 to construct 30 miles of protected bike lanes across Kansas City, creating a safe space for residents. This includes users beyond cyclists, from runners and walkers, to those using strollers, wheelchairs, or scooters.

I organize Parents Advocating for Safe Streets, a group of concerned families who want to see the Kansas City metro's street infrastructure improved to provide safe experiences for all. The full group is in support of this Ordinance.

Kansas City's safety record for non-vehicle road users is embarrassing in comparison to similarly sized cities, being 3x more dangerous per capita. If you look at the 3rd District specifically, it's 5x more dangerous.

There are multiple studies proving that facilities must be in place before residents begin to adopt active habits such as cycling. It's also proven that when you make infrastructure safe for the most vulnerable user, it becomes safer for everyone. Additionally, the projects in Ordinance 220318 have been pulled from existing area improvement plans, so they already have the support of communities around them.

I will be following this vote and sharing the results with our full membership.

Thank you,
Ellen Schwartze
4th District resident