



Westside Housing

October 22, 2021

Mayor Quinton Lucas and
Members of the City Council
KCMO City Hall
414 E. 12th Street
Kansas City, MO 64106

Dear Mayor Lucas and City Council:

On behalf of the Westside Housing Organization, I am writing to oppose Ordinance #210966 and ask you all to do the same. We are asking you to vote **NO** for the following reasons:

- **This ordinance doesn't address issues with community engagement.** The ordinance emphasizes choice with neighborhood associations, but these aren't the only stakeholders who will be affected. There is no consideration for youth, non-English speaking communities, or the disabled. We're effectively limiting their voices further in these critical conversations.
- **Ripping out bike lanes won't bring us sidewalks any faster.** The ordinance would nullify the district's ability to access the \$6 million in projected allocations for the implementation of Complete Streets and Vision Zero. Not only does this harm cyclists, it also harms efforts to improve safety for pedestrians, the disabled, and transit users. This means it could likely take even longer to achieve some of the walkability improvements that Councilwoman Robinson wants to see completed.
- **This will hinder our long-term climate efforts.** Transportation is one of our city's largest sources of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, according to the most recent update to the city's GHG inventory. Ripping out infrastructure which supports biking and other clean forms of multimodal transportation is the exact opposite of how we will bring these numbers down in a timely fashion.

Westside Housing/WSH works at the intersection of housing, health, energy and equity. WSH applauds healthy bike lanes for alternative transportation, and the reduction of greenhouse gas. In conclusion, WSH strongly urge you all to vote **NO** on Ordinance #210966.

Thank you,

Gloria Ortiz Fisher
Westside Housing Organization