From: Nathan Garrison
To: Public Testimony
Subject: Please Oppose Ordinance 250382
Date: Friday, May 2, 2025 9:18:19 AM

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Dear Public Testimony Public Testimony,

I'm writing to ask you to oppose Ordinance 250382. I spoke multiple times at budget hearings this year to support not only public transit, but also vision zero. Safe and secure walking and biking is just as important to the city as a robust transportation system. If people are not able to safely walk to their destination after they get off the bus, what is the point of the transportation in the first place? I consistently see people have to walk in ditches because there is no sidewalk, use unsafe crosswalks that stretch across 4 lanes of traffic, and have to bike on roads with high speed limits because there isn't another option. I am thankful that I have a car because I see how unsafe a large majority of the city is for bikers and pedestrians. I want to be able to bike to more businesses. I want to be able to walk to the library. But most of the time I just can't justify the risk. For those without a car, there isn't another option.

I'm greatly disappointed to see Vision Zero money cut in order to try and put a band aid on the larger issue of transportation funding. Vision zero is directly intertwined with the transit system of the city. This ordinance is simply robbing Peter to pay Paul.

Furthermore, reducing money from vision zero will result in more dead pedestrians. Dangerous intersections will continue to exist, and people will die while riding their bikes, walking their dogs, and taking their kids to school. There is only one way for the city to seriously reduce these tragedies. If the city is serious about Zero traffic fatalities, then it needs to spend serious money. If it continues to cut this funding further, it would continue to show that "Vision Zero" is a catchy name for a goal it's not serious about achieving.

Regards,
Nathan Garrison
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