From:	Dayna Moth
To:	Public Testimony; Bunch, Eric; Lucas, Quinton; Shields, Katheryn
Subject:	Oppose 210966
Date:	Monday, December 13, 2021 11:49:03 AM

My name is Dayna Meyer and I oppose ordinance #210966.

Removing existing bike lanes in the city is a horrible waste of taxpayer money, and it signals that Kansas City does not care about the safety of citizens who ride bikes and walk. It also signals that the council is not taking climate change seriously, as removing bike lanes creates more car-dependency. If the council truly recognizes that bicycle lanes are important to a healthy community, that safe routes to school are a priority, and that all Kansas Citians deserve safer streets, then they will oppose #210966.

I have lived in Kansas City since 2008 and I do not drive. I use cycling as my primary form of transportation and the improvements to the bicycle infrastructure in Kansas City over the past few years (especially the cycle path on Gillham and the bike lanes on Armour) have had a massive positive impact on my daily life. I am now able to move about a good amount of the city without anxiety, and find myself patronizing more businesses more often than I was previously able to due to the extra mobility these lanes provide me. Bike infrastructure is a basic need.

I oppose ordinance #210966 because life doesn't abide by district boundaries: I live in district 4, buy my weekly groceries in district 3, and work in district 5. Creating arbitrary hurdles to improving our bicycle infrastructure in certain districts helps nobody, and instead leads to a fractured bike system that is worse for everyone.

I oppose ordinance #210966 because pitting cyclists' and pedestrians' needs against each other is a lose-lose situation. The people who most need sidewalks and the people who most need bike lanes are the same constituencies: Kansas Citians who primarily get around without a car. Bike lanes create a more walkable environment by calming car traffic, creating safer conditions for all. I find it absolutely repugnant to suggest we cannot have good sidewalks without removing bike lanes, or good bike lanes until sidewalks are fixed. Stop pitting these two basic needs against each other, and instead create funding to repair and install sidewalks AND install and maintain bike lanes. Fast track the installation and repair of sidewalks today, with priority installation in the parts of the city with the most automobile accidents AND continue to install and maintain bike lanes. This cannot be an either-or situation. The people of Kansas City deserve to have our basic needs met, and sidewalks and bike lanes are both basic needs.

I oppose ordinance #210966 because it wrongly suggests that no neighborhood input went into the implementation of these bike lanes. I have taken multiple surveys and have attended countless community meetings over the past few years about the design and implementation of bicycle infrastructure in Kansas City. To claim that the neighborhoods that these bike lanes are within had no say in their implementation is absolutely false. I do think that the city can do more to market and amplify these meetings and can and should improve their outreach, and I hope that the Planning and Public Works departments continue to improve their marketing and outreach, and work towards having more accessible meetings (with continued Zoom/digital attendance options).

I oppose ordinance #210966 because it uses bike lanes as a bargaining chip to get the directives in Committee Substitute for Resolution No. 20055 passed. Instead, please pass the directives in Committee Substitute for Resolution No. 20055 concerning bulky trash pick up ASAP, and do not tie it's approval to this ordinance. Automatic bulky trash pick-up around schools is a no-brainer! Again, the people of Kansas City deserve to have trash-free streets AND bike lanes. We can and should have both.

As a Kansas Citian who does not drive, these bike lanes are a daily and integral part of my life. Bike lanes make my life safer, and they also make life safer for all who bike, walk, or drive near them, as they help reduce fossil fuel use (leading to better air quality) and induce traffic calming (which slows down speeding cars and causes drivers to be more alert and aware). Please do not turn back the progress you have made over the past few years. Kansas City can be a place where everyone can thrive, whether they have a car or not. Please vote against ordinance #210966.

Thank you,
Dayna Meyer
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