

July 31, 2023

The Honorable Quinton Lucas and Distinguished Members of the City Council City of Kansas City, Missouri City Hall, 414 E. 12th Street Kansas City, MO 64106

Dear Mayor Lucas and Members of the City Council:

On behalf of LISC Greater Kansas City, I write to express our support for Ordinance 230613 and Resolution 230618. LISC partners with residents and stakeholders to forge resilient and inclusive communities of opportunity - great places to live, work, visit, do business, and raise families. We believe these pieces of legislation will enhance our community and create a Kansas City that is a healthier and safer place for all residents by advancing active transportation, increasing mobility and access, and promoting healthy community design in our built environment.

Ordinance 230613 advances a citywide pedestrian, cyclist, and vehicular traffic safety plan. This ordinance makes particular mention of previous legislation around community engagement. Having a clear plan for where potential projects are being proposed makes it easier for city staff to focus outreach efforts in a way that will allow for more key stakeholders along identified routes to be involved and informed on steps the city is taking to create a safer road network for everyone.

Resolution 230618 will initiate a citywide road diet analysis and enable city staff to develop preliminary designs for those changes. Implementing these changes creates opportunities for safer transportation with other modes (like walking, transit, and biking), but also opportunities to reuse public space for other needs beyond driving alone. This includes, but isn't limited to, expanded sidewalks, tree planting, and more.

Having served on the city's Vision Zero Task Force, I have seen the immense harm traffic violence does to our fellow Kansas Citians. We need to drastically change the way we plan for and build safer streets for everyone. Your leadership in passing Ordinance 230613 and Resolution 230618 will create safer streets, walkable neighborhoods, and improved mobility options for all of Kansas City's residents. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Geoff Jolley

Executive Director