From:	Mel Mark
To:	Public Testimony
Subject:	64106 resident OPPOSE 210966
Date:	Friday, December 10, 2021 12:04:56 PM

Hello,

I was born and raised in KC and now reside in 64106 in downtown KCMO.

I am an avid road cyclist and have cycled hundreds of miles around the city and make use of the bike lanes often.

I work as a software engineer and am surrounded by screens all day (as most of us are) - it is refreshing to get out and get some fresh air while keeping healthy and staying active on my bicycle.

It is not safe to ride on sidewalks due to other pedestrians (you wouldn't want me going 15mph swerving around dogs, children, and elderly pedestrians) and also poorly kept/inconsistent pavement.

It is also not as safe to ride in the road without a dedicated bike lane - every year more and more drivers are getting into distraction-related accidents. A multi-thousand pound hunk of metal flying by at 30-50mph while I'm on a 25lb bicycle going 15mph is not fun.

Bike lanes keep cyclists, pedestrians, and drivers safe. There is plenty of peer-reviewed research behind this and we should be promoting safe, healthy habits in our city (not to mention a better way to commute!).

I implore you to not only keep and maintain our current bike lane infrastructure - but to expand upon it and promote healthier, safer, and more sustainable ways of living.

Go ride a bike going south on the right side of Gillham (outside the bike lane on the east side) then ride in the dedicated bike lane and tell me it's not safer :-)

Lifelong KC resident, taxpayer, and avid-user-of-KC-bike-lanes,
Mel Mark