From:	Derek Moore
To:	Public Testimony
Cc:	Shields, Katheryn; Bunch, Eric
Subject:	Oppose KCMO Ordinance 210966
Date:	Sunday, December 12, 2021 8:29:25 AM

Good Morning,

I am asking you to oppose KCMO Ordinance 210966. Though I agree community input including resident and neighborhood associations should be part of the process, I don't believe we move forward as a community by moving backward.

I live very close to what has now become a raceway on 39th street. I don't feel safe even walking my dogs on the sidewalk given the rate of speed cars travel, literally racing each other at highway speeds. This is how Armour Boulevard used to be prior to traffic calming to include bike lanes. I know this because I frequently crossed Armour at Campbell when we lived in South Hyde Park and were on one of our frequent Home Depot trips. Though sight lines and speeds still need to be addressed on Armour, the bike lanes have transformed the street into a much more livable, walkable, bike-friendly street.

My husband and I were also victim to one of the many crashes while waiting on 39th street to turn onto Harrison Parkway. While *stopped* a car took an early turn at a high rate of speed in an attempt to thwart the light on 39th and ripped the entire front end of our car off. The new bike lanes and street markings at 39th and Gillham and on Gillham itself have made this intersection and those streets much safer. Cars travel slower and joggers and bikers have safe routes of passage (although, the dangerously high rates of speed on 39th still need to be addressed ASAP). When these lanes on Gillham went in I even used them. My husband and I have lived in Midtown for just over 10 years and I've never biked anywhere here because I didn't feel safe with the traffic. That is now changing with the new north south bike lanes and in fact I would like to see more connecting east/west routes to get over to Westport from my neighborhood. I work from home 100% and with the expanded bike lanes I have even considered getting an electric bike to further eliminate my car usage; shouldn't that be the goal? Making other-than-car modes of transport easier for residents instead of more difficult and less safe?

Please do address incorporating more community input moving forward, but please do oppose Ordinance 210966 and please do NOT rip out existing bike lanes. Please do not listen to the loudest minority voices screaming about "ugly curbs" and "ugly white things" in the street and understand a vast majority of neighborhood residents support having these bike lanes, support putting in more bike lanes and traffic calming (39th would be great for example), and if given the chance would love to make this clear at a meeting. Unfortunately, I work and can't attend a meeting at 9 in the morning on a weekday otherwise I would most certainly be there.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with questions or for further input.

Thank you,
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