

Major Taylor Cycling Club of Kansas City

P.O. Box 22451

Kansas City, MO 64113

Majortaylorkc.org

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October 22, 2021

Mayor Quinton Lucas and
Members of the City Council
KCMO City Hall
414 E. 12th Street
Kansas City, MO 64106

Dear Mayor Lucas:

As president of the Major Taylor Cycling Club of Kansas City, I am writing this letter to express our organization's strong opposition to proposed ordinance #210966.

The Major Taylor Cycling Club is one of a small group of cycling clubs made up primarily of people of color. Our name comes from Major Taylor, a Black cycling legend from the turn of the 20th Century. We honor his name and legacy by engaging in the sport which he broke barriers very many years ago.

We not only ride to honor his breaking of barriers, but to keep new barriers from rising up, and which includes ordinances like this. While many of us are experienced riders, we certainly enjoy being able to engage in this healthy physical activity without having to worry about being hit by a car. This is why we have supported policies and projects which lead to the development of more bike infrastructure. Further, it helps us to encourage new riders who may be fearful of having to ride in mixed traffic.

It is our understanding that the issue at the core of this ordinance is about the lack of community engagement. And yet, organizations like ours, made up of Black and Brown people who ride on

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bike lanes in the 3rd District, were never consulted about this legislation before it was drafted or introduced. If the issue really is community engagement, we should invest in more of that.

Ripping out current bike lanes and banning future ones won't solve that problem.

Vote no on Ordinance #210966.

Thank you,

Mitchell Williams

President

Major Taylor Cycling Club of Kansas City