

February 8, 2021

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

Dear Mayor Lucas and Members of the City Council Transportation, Infrastructure and Operations Committee:

The Legislative Committee of the Thomas Hart Benton Group of the Missouri Chapter of Sierra Club wishes to submit the following letter in support of the proposed Ordinance No. 210100 to decriminalize walking and biking in Kansas City. We support this measure as a step to limit the over-policing of Black and Brown people in Kansas City. The measures targeted in this legislation, including jaywalking, dirty tires, and bike inspection, do nothing to actually make our streets safer for people who walk or bike. It doesn't make sense for us to allow these measures to remain in place, especially if there is no evidence they protect the people who fall under their scope.

As Sierra Club members, who promote efforts in our community that will address the challenges of climate change, we see the need to encourage modes of transportation that are alternatives to motor vehicles. Kansas City should make efforts to ensure that these alternative modes do not become tools of needless policing. The resources the community devotes to law enforcement can be better placed.

In conclusion, the Legislative Committee of the Thomas Hart Benton Group of the Missouri Chapter of Sierra Club supports the adoption of this measure and asks the City Council to do the same.

Thank you,



Don Wallace,  
Co-chair Legislative Committee  
THB Group of Missouri Chapter of Sierra Club  
Resident, Fourth District, KCMO