

# **S.A.N. □ Sustainability Action Network**

a Kansas not-for-profit organization  
P.O.Box 1064     Lawrence, KS 66044

Lawrence City Commission  
City Hall  
6 East 6<sup>th</sup> St.  
Lawrence, KS 66044

30 November 2009

re:     bicycle lanes & mill-overlay on East 15<sup>th</sup> St.

Dear Mayor Chestnut & Commission:

In reviewing the Pavement Maintenance Program Update and the 2010 Street Maintenance Program, we noticed that East 15<sup>th</sup> Street from Haskell Ave. to Connecticut St. is designated for mill and overlay. I would like to draw your attention to several background issues regarding East 15<sup>th</sup> Street.

East 15<sup>th</sup> Street from the East City limits to Massachusetts is designated for bicycle lanes by the 1999 BCI Study and Bicycle Works Program alike. City policy on retrofit bicycle lanes calls for inclusion in all mill & overlay projects as they are funded, to ultimately create bicycle lane continuity. Implementation of the East 15<sup>th</sup> Street bicycle lanes began in 2002 with the mill & overlay from the East City limits to Prospect Ave (see attached photo - "15<sup>th</sup> & Prospect").

With the 2010 mill & overlay of East 15<sup>th</sup> Street from Haskell Ave. to Connecticut St., City policy would specify that the budget should accommodate the designated bicycle lane striping and pavement symbols. Fulfilling bicycle lane retrofit policy for this segment is especially important because it is a frequently used bicycle street, and the Burroughs Creek Trail will cross this section of roadway.

But that will leave a critical gap in bicycle lanes on 15<sup>th</sup> Street from Prospect Ave. to Haskell Ave. Curiously, the CPI for this segment is staff rated at 40-50, the same as they rated the segment west of Haskell. Yet it is demonstrably in poorer shape, and cannot possibly be above 30-40 CPI. This section should not be delayed for a later paving cycle, but should be included in the 2010 Street Maintenance Program for mill & overlay and bicycle lanes.

- 15<sup>th</sup> Street from Prospect Ave. to Haskell Ave. is 30 year old concrete.
- It was an unorthodox project, funded and built through CDBG funds.
- It has never been rebuilt or overlaid, and the concrete is significantly deteriorated.
- In 2002, 2006 and since, the neighborhood had requested that it be overlaid.
- Virtually every joint is crumbling, and requires patching about six times a year.
- Please see attached photos clearly indicating staff has underestimated the deterioration.

For reasons of peak oil and climate destabilization, the Sustainability Action Network is interested in advancing bicycle use, particularly in center-city where the predominance of commuter and utility bicyclists are located. We would appreciate the Commission designating 15<sup>th</sup> Street for bicycle lanes from Prospect Ave. to Connecticut St.

Michael Almon

Sustainability Action Network, Inc.  
Electric & Human Powered Vehicles Committee

















E 15th St  
Prairie  
1400









